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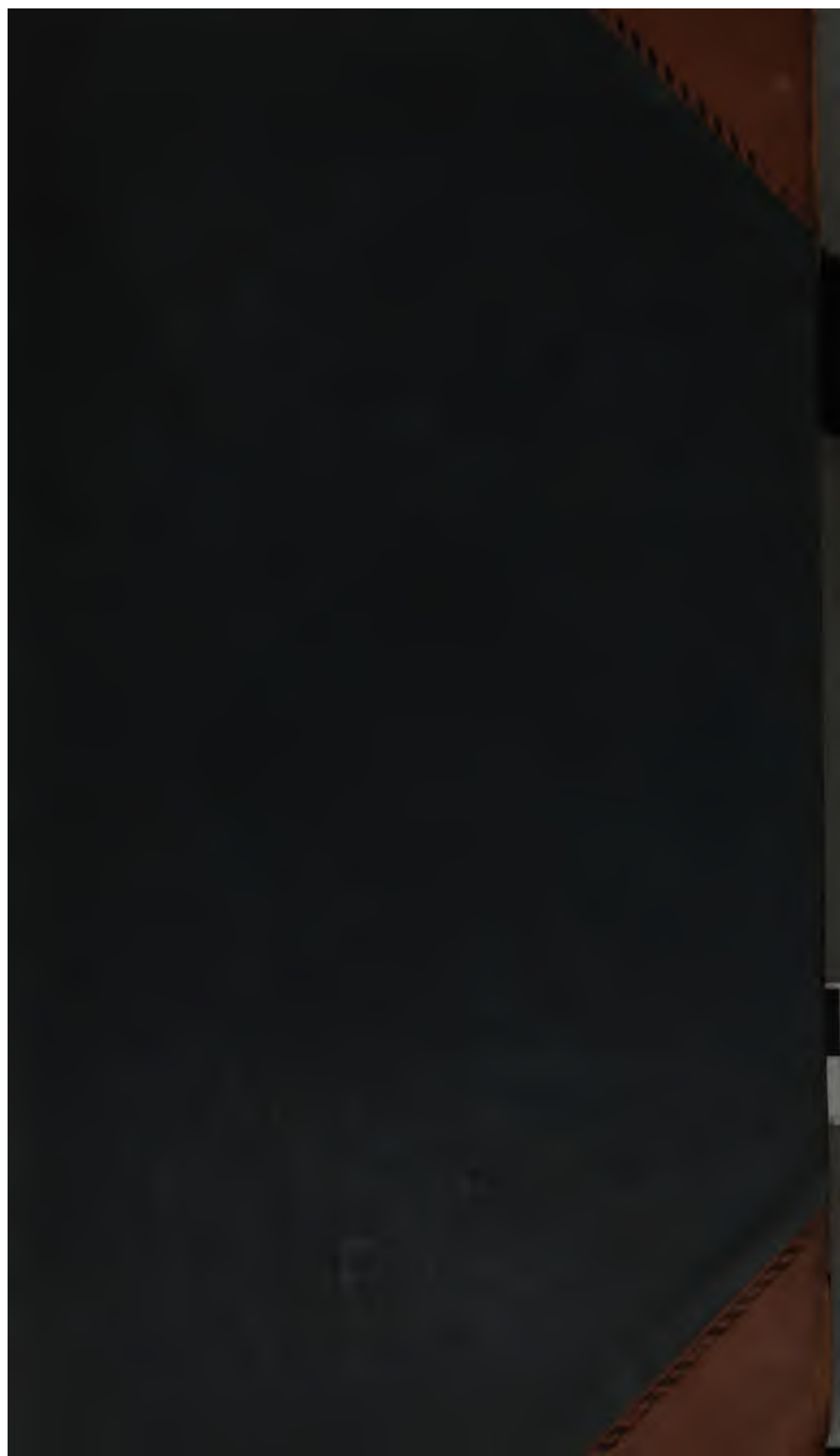
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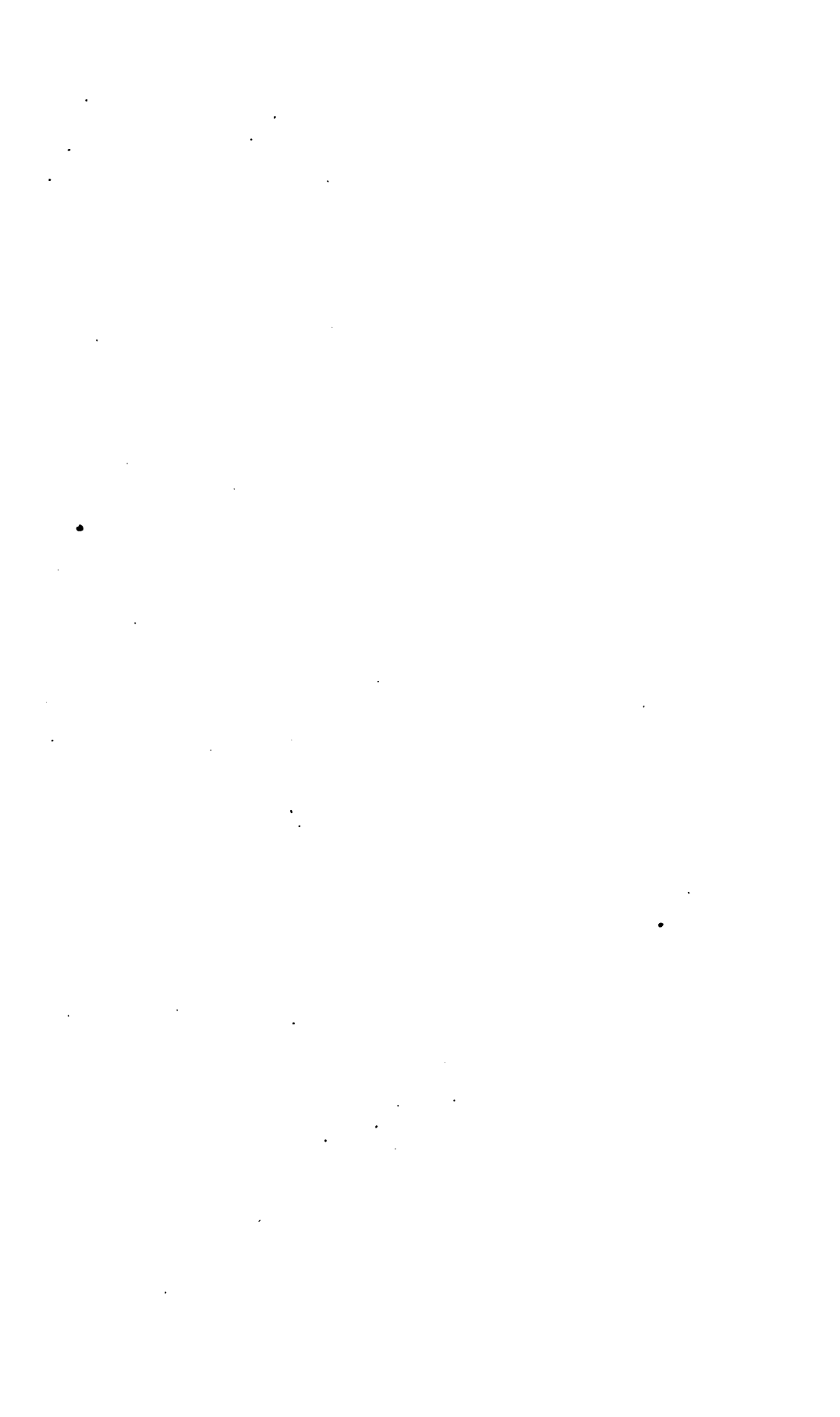
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HISTORICAL RECORD
OF
THE ROYAL MARINE FORCES.

VOL II.

" NEQUID FALSI DICERE AUDEAT,
NEQUID VERI NON AUDEAT."

Cicero.

HISTORICAL RECORD
OF THE
ROYAL MARINE FORCES.

By PAUL HARRIS NICOLAS,
Lieut. Royal Marines.



VOL. II.



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THE HISTORY

OF THE

ROYAL MARINE FORCES.

CHAPTER I.

FROM OCTOBER 1805, TO FEBRUARY 1806.

WE left the Victory about a quarter before noon, just as she had conveyed to the fleet that inspiring sentiment of the noble chief, which echoed in every Briton's heart on this day of deadly strife; and with the signal hoisted to "engage closer," the Victory continued slowly advancing towards the enemy's line.

At twenty minutes past noon, and about ten minutes after the Royal Sovereign had passed under the stern of the Santa Aña, the Bucentaure fired a shot at the Victory, then, with studding sails on both sides, steering about east and going scarcely a knot and a half through the water, but the shot fell short: after a few minutes had elapsed, a second shot was fired, which fell alongside; a third almost immediately followed, and that went over the ship. One or two others did the same, until a shot went through her main top-gallant sail. This visible proof that she was within reach, was followed by a minute or two of awful silence; and then, as if by signal, six or seven ships ahead and stern of the french admiral opened their fire upon the Victory.

Seeing that the british admiral was about to follow the example of his second in command, the french and spanish ships closed for mutual support. This movement, together with the

stoppage in the head-way of the *Santa Afia*, and the bearing up of the two ships a-head of her, divided the combined line nearly in the centre; leaving fourteen ships in the van, and nineteen in the rear, with an interval between them of more than three quarters of a mile. When the *Victory* had reached within about 500 yards of the larboard beam of the *Bucentaure*, her mizen top-mast was carried away, and another shot knocked her wheel to pieces. In a few minutes, eight marines were killed and several wounded by a single shot, as they were drawn up on the poop, upon which the admiral directed captain Adair to disperse his men; and it is to be regretted that the precaution adopted by the *Belleisle* and some leading ships in the lee column had not been practised here,—that of ordering the men to lie down until they could return the enemy's fire. Presently a shot, which came through the hammocks near the larboard chess-tree, carried away the larboard-quarter of the launch on the booms, and striking the fore-bits on the quarter-deck, a splinter tore the buckle from captain Hardy's shoe, as he was walking the deck with lord Nelson. They both instantly stopped, and surveying each other with anxious looks, his lordship smiled and observed, "This is too warm work, Hardy, to last long."

As the *Bucentaure* forged a-head, a large french ship was seen upon her lee-quarter, and another ship astern of the former, ranging up as if intending to close the interval. Captain Hardy representing to lord Nelson the impracticability of passing through the line without running on board one of the ships, his lordship quickly replied, "It does not signify which we run on board of. Go on board of which you please,—take your choice."

It was about one o'clock when the sixty-eight pounder on the larboard-side of the *Victory's* forecastle was discharged into the cabin-windows of the *Bucentaure*; and as the three-decker moved slowly a-head, the remaining fifty guns on that side, treble shotted, were deliberately discharged into the french ship as they came to bear: so close were the ships, that the

Victory's larboard main yard-arm, as she rolled, touched the vangs of the Bucentaure's gaff.

Although there were no visible effects of this destructive broadside, yet the havoc it made among the crew of the french ship was tremendous, and many of her guns were dismounted. As the Victory cleared the stern of the Bucentaure, she became exposed to a well-directed fire from the Neptune; but as she was advancing towards the beam of the french 80, the latter, apprehensive of an intention to run her on board, ran up her jib, and keeping away a little, ranged a-head. Captain Hardy having decided on closing with the ship on his starboard hand, the Victory, after discharging her starboard guns, put her helm a-port, and ran foul of the Redoutable, the sheet-anchor of the one striking the spare of the other, and in a few minutes the two ships dropped alongside. In this position they continued to engage; and as it is stated by our best naval chronicler that the Redoutable had lowered her ports, we presume that the only return made to the fire of the british three-decker was from the guns of the french ship's main and quarter-deck, aided by her musketry. About 1 h. 25 m. P.M., while lord Nelson turned round as he was walking on the quarter-deck with captain Hardy, he received a musket-ball on the left shoulder, which, passing through the fore-part of the epaulet, lodged in the spine.

Captain Hardy, turning also at that moment, saw the admiral in the act of falling: he was then on his knees, with his left hand touching the deck; and the arm giving way, his lordship fell upon the exact spot where his secretary, Mr. Scott, had breathed his last. On the captain's expressing a hope that he was not severely wounded, lord Nelson replied, "They have done for me at last, Hardy: my back-bone is shot through." From the direction of the fatal bullet, it must have been fired from the mizen-top of the Redoutable, but it is very doubtful if it was aimed at any individual; and had an officer been singled out, captain Hardy would probably have been the vic-

tim, for his commanding appearance was far more likely to have been the object of attention. Moreover, in the confusion which prevailed at that moment, with the deck enveloped in smoke, it would have been impossible to have used any discrimination beyond firing at the spot where many officers and men were busily engaged. Serjeant Secker and two marines, who had approached on seeing the admiral fall, bore their revered and much-lamented chief to the cockpit. The Redoutable's fire from her upper decks and musketry was so destructive, that several officers and about 40 men were killed or wounded on board the Victory, whose crew, abandoning the twelve-pounders, continued to fire her twenty-four and thirty-two pounders from the middle and lower decks into her opponent, who became exposed to a raking fire from the Neptune and succeeding ships, as they passed her a-head. The Redoutable had besides to contend with an unequal match in the Téméraire on her starboard side, who, in order to keep astern of the Victory as she had been directed, was under the necessity of cutting away her studding-sails; and upon taking her station close on the Victory's starboard quarter, was alike exposed to the heavy raking fire directed at her leader. In a few minutes after the Victory poured her larboard broadside into the stern of the Bucentaure, the Téméraire opened her fire at the Neptune and Redoutable; and when the Victory ran on board the latter, the Téméraire was compelled to haul to starboard, and passing along the broadside of the Redoutable, received a sharp fire, which carried away the head of her mizen top-mast. After standing on a short distance, the Téméraire hauled up as she passed through the enemy's line, to avoid being raked by the french Neptune, whose heavy fire brought down her fore-yard and main top-mast: at that moment, about 1 h. 40 m., the Redoutable, with the Victory on her larboard side, fell on board the Téméraire; the french ship's bowsprit passing over her gangway a little before the main rigging, where it was lashed by the british crew, who poured a raking broadside into

the bows of the Redoutable. A short time before this second powerful opponent had placed herself alongside the french 74, the latter made a resolute attempt to board the Victory; and so formidable was the assault, that in repulsing the gallant enemy, captain Charles W. Adair, while standing upon the gangway encouraging his party of marines, and 18 men were killed; and lieutenant William Ram, mortally, George Augustus Westphal, midshipman, and 20 men wounded.

Notwithstanding the dreadful havoc among the boarders assembled on the forecastle and gangways of the Redoutable by the heavy fire of the three-decker, the 74 continued nobly to defend herself after the *Téméraire* had dropped alongside; but at length overpowered, this heroically-fought ship was taken possession of at 1 h. 55 m. P. M. This happened just as the Victory was preparing to boom herself off from the Redoutable; and at this moment a two-decker was observed close upon the *Téméraire's* starboard side, which ship was the *Fougueux*, who, it will be recollected, on quitting the *Belleisle* was engaged by the *Achille*. The french ship stood to the northward, steering directly for the beam of the three-decker, at that time much disabled; and as her gaff was down, she had no colours flying, except the jack on the fore-topmast stay. When the *Fougueux* got within 100 yards, she became exposed to the starboard guns of the *Téméraire*, which so crippled the french ship that she fell alongside, and was immediately lashed by her fore rigging to the *Téméraire's* spare anchor; and lieutenant Kennedy, with two midshipmen, 20 seamen, and 6 marines, then boarded the *Fougueux* in her larboard main-rigging. On the quarter-deck captain Baudouin (mortally wounded), and his officers, were encouraging their men to repel the boarders; but the second captain being severely wounded in the onset, the french crew were driven off the deck, and in ten minutes after lieutenant Kennedy and his twenty-eight followers got on board, the *Fougueux* was in possession of the British.

This occurrence took place at about 2 h. 10 m. P. M., and it

was within five minutes afterwards that the Victory, having by the aid of fire-booms, disengaged herself from the Redoutable, gradually got her head to the northward, while the three fast-locked ships, from which she had just parted, swung out their heads to the southward. Shortly afterwards the main and mizen-masts of the Redoutable came down: the main-mast falling on board the *Téméraire*, carried away the stump of the latter's mizen top-mast, and breaking down the poop rail, encumbered the whole after-part of the ship with the wreck. The main-mast of the french ship forming a bridge of easy descent, was soon available; and at 2 h. 20 m. P. M. lieutenant Wallace, heading a party of seamen and marines, stepped on board, and took quiet possession of the gallantly-defended Redoutable.

The Victory's masts were all badly wounded, and her rigging and sails cut to pieces. Among the killed was captain Charles W. Adair and 18 marines; and among the wounded, lieutenants Lewis Buckle Reeves and J. G. Peake, and 9 privates. On board the *Téméraire*, captain Simeon Busigny, lieutenant John Kingston, and 8 marines were killed; lieutenant Samuel J. Payne and 12 marines wounded.

The Redoutable's loss was unusually severe: out of a crew of 643 men, she had 300 killed and 222 wounded, including nearly the whole of her officers. The *Fougueux's* loss was comparatively very small, being only 40 in killed and wounded.

As the *Leviathan* was advancing in her station astern of the Conqueror, captain Blackwood communicated to captain Bayntun that lord Nelson desired the latter to place his ship between the *Téméraire* and the Victory, and it was intended that these two ships were to precede the commander-in-chief; but the lead of the column had then advanced too near the enemy to render the change practicable. The *Leviathan* made every effort to reach the enviable post assigned her; but as it was now 11 h. 30 m. A. M., she did not get further a-head than just abreast of the Conqueror, before the enemy's shot were beginning to pass over the Victory.

The Neptune, having shortened sail to facilitate the endeavours of the Leviathan to pass a-head to her newly allotted station, and the almost calm state of the weather, made it 1 h. 45 m. P.M. before she became closely engaged. At this time, after her fruitless efforts to go a-head, the Leviathan had resumed her station in the line, close astern of the Neptune and a short distance a-head of the Conqueror. Passing close under the stern of the Bucentaure, the Neptune poured in a well-directed broadside, which shot away the french admiral's main and mizen-masts nearly by the board, and doubtless killed and wounded a great many of her crew. The Leviathan, when within thirty yards of the french ship's stern, also poured in a destructive fire, and the Conqueror soon after raked her in the same manner.

The Conqueror, then hauling up on the lee-quarter of the Bucentaure, soon knocked away her fore-mast, and after a few minutes, an officer on board the latter waved in token of surrender. Captain James Atcherly of the marines, with three of his men and two seamen, were sent in the Conqueror's jolly-boat to take possession: on that officer's stepping on the Bucen-taure's quarter-deck, vice-admiral Villeneuve and his two captains presented their swords; but conceiving that it more properly belonged to captain Pellew to disarm officers of their rank, captain Atcherly declined the honour of receiving them, and accompanied by the french admiral and his two captains, pushed off with his three remaining hands, and at length boarded the Mars; for the Conqueror had proceeded in chase.

The Neptune, hauling up soon after she raked the Bucen-taure, soon found herself in a similar position astern of the Santissima Trinidad, whose main and mizen-masts came down with a tremendous crash, just as the Leviathan was in the act of seconding the fire of her leader. The Neptune then luffed up alongside of the Santissima to leeward, while the Conqueror kept up a distant fire upon the four-decker with her starboard guns to windward. At 2 h. 30 m. P.M., the fore-mast of the

Santissima fell over her bows, and she lay an unmanageable wreck upon the water. At this moment the movement in the combined van called the attention of the Neptune; and some of those ships on bearing up raked her, and caused the principal part of the damage and loss she sustained in the action.

Leaving the Santissima Trinidad to the care of the english Neptune, the Leviathan stood on towards the french Neptune, then in the position we have related on the lee-bow of the Téméraire; but before the Leviathan had opened her fire, the french Neptune wore round and stood away in the direction of the Belleisle. Captain Bayntun then hauled up on the lar-board tack, and soon afterwards stood on towards the van-ships of the enemy, who were observed to be tacking or wearing, as if intending to double upon the headmost ships of the british weather column.

About 3 P.M. the San Augustin, steering to the south-east, when within 100 yards, attempted to rake the Leviathan; but the latter, porting her helm at the same moment, and having fresher way than the spanish ship, not only defeated the intended manœuvre of her antagonist, but was enabled to pour her broadside so effectually into the starboard quarter of the San Augustin, that it brought down her mizen-mast, and with it the spanish colours. The Leviathan then ran on board the San Augustin in such manner, that the latter's jib-boom became entangled in the british ship's main rigging. In this position, the marines on board the Leviathan's poop soon drove the Spaniards below; and lieutenant Eyles Mounsbeer, at the head of a party of seamen and marines, boarded the San Augustin, and carried her without further opposition. Soon after the Leviathan had lashed herself to her prize, the Intrépide, another fresh ship from the combined van, was seen advancing, and after raking the Leviathan a-head, she ranged along her starboard side; but on the Africa approaching, the french ship merely exchanged a passing fire. The british 64 gallantly brought the Intrépide to close action at about 3 h. 20 m. P.M.,

and notwithstanding her great inferiority of force, the Africa continued the contest for nearly three-quarters of an hour, at which time the Orion came up and opened a fire upon the Intrépide's starboard quarter. The Orion then wore round the french ship's stern, and bringing to on the latter's lee-bow, between her and the Africa, maintained so heavy and well-directed a fire, that in less than a quarter of an hour the main and mizen-masts of the french ship fell over her side, and the approach of the Conqueror left the Intrépide no alternative but to strike her colours. At about 5 p. m. she was taken possession of, having sustained a loss of 200 killed and wounded.

In reference to the Africa we must observe, that from having lost sight of the fleet during the night, she was broad upon the Victory's larboard-beam when the firing commenced, and nearly abreast of the van-ship of the combined line. Seeing her danger, lord Nelson made the Africa signal to make more sail; but captain Digby, not comprehending his lordship's motive, used every means to hasten his ship into the thick of the fight, instead of withdrawing from it. Passing along, and exchanging broadsides in succession with the enemy's ships, the Africa bore down a-head of the Santissima Trinidad, and meeting no return to her fire, nor seeing any colours hoisted, the british captain concluded she had surrendered, and consequently sent lieutenant John Smith in a boat to take possession; but on reaching the quarter-deck, a spanish officer explained that they had not surrendered, at the same time pointing to the four french and one spanish ship of the line then passing to windward: strange to say, lieutenant Smith and his boat's crew were permitted to return to their ship, and the Trinidad remained without a prize-crew until 5 h. 30 m. p. m., when the Prince, by signal, boarded, and took the dismasted four-decker in tow. The Africa had her main top-sail yard shot away, and her lower masts and bowsprit were so badly wounded, that they all fell after the action. She had 6 marines killed, captain James Fynmore and 7 wounded; and her total loss, out of 493 men and boys, was 18 killed and

37 wounded. On board the *Conqueror*, lieutenant Thomas Wearing was among the wounded.

It was about 2 h. 30 m. P. M. that the whole of the ships of the combined van a-head of the *Santissima Trinidad*, who lay dismasted abreast and to leeward of the *Bucentaure*, (equally a wreck,) began to tack or wear, in obedience to a signal made by the commander-in-chief at 1 h. 50 m. P. M. to the following purport :—"Ships not engaged, are to take such a position as will bring them the most quickly into action ;" and it appears that five minutes previous to this communication, rear-admiral Dumanoir had signalled the commander-in-chief that the van had no enemy to contend with. At all events, no immediate attempt was made by the generality of the ships to comply with the signal, and those who were most prompt in obeying it were so baffled by the calm state of the weather, that the *Formidable* and one or two other ships had to employ their boats to tow themselves round. When the ten ships did at length get on the starboard tack, four french and one spanish, under rear-admiral Dumanoir, hauled their wind ; and the remaining five kept away as if to join admiral Gravina, then to leeward of the rear, in the act of making off towards Cadiz.

It was at this period of confusion in the combined van, that the *Britannia*, *Agamemnon*, *Orion*, and *Ajax* got intermingled among the enemy's ships that had wore and edged away in the manner related. The *Britannia* was engaged for a short time with the *Francisco d'Asis*, and subsequently with the *Rayo*. The *Agamemnon* and *Ajax* also exchanged a few broadsides with some of the ships that had bore up ; and the *Orion*, as already stated, was the first, after the *Africa*, that became engaged with the *Intrépide*: the latter, and the *San Augustin*, were the only ships of the five that seemed to have any other object in view than a retreat.

The five ships that hauled to the wind, were the *Formidable*, bearing the flag of rear-admiral Dumanoir, *Duguay Trouin*, *Mont Blanc*, *Scipion*, and *Neptune*. The British that lay near-

est to their track were, from their disabled state, the least calculated to offer opposition ; and among these the Victory, *Téméraire*, and Royal Sovereign were the most exposed. One of the first shots fired by the ships under rear-admiral Dumanoir killed two lieutenants on board the Conqueror : then keeping away a little, they exchanged a few and ineffectual shots with the Victory ; but by the time they arrived abreast of the *Téméraire*, the latter had succeeded in clearing her starboard broadside of the *Fougueux*, who now lay athwart her stern.

One or two broadsides were exchanged between the british three-decker and the ships to windward, and the fire of the latter, besides cutting away the main and mizen-masts of the *Fougueux*, killed and wounded some of the french crew, and one shot killed a midshipman of the *Téméraire*, when on board the *Redoutable*.

At about 3 h. 15 m. P. M. the *Minotaur* and *Spartiate*, having hove to on the larboard tack, exchanged broadsides with the four french ships as they passed them to windward ; and then wearing round, succeeded in cutting off the *Neptuno*, who was some way astern of her companions. At about 4 h. 10 m. P. M. they got alongside of the spanish 80-gun ship, who after defending herself in the most gallant manner, surrendered a few minutes after 5 P. M., with the loss of her mizen-mast, and fore and main top-masts. Having been captured directly to windward of the *Téméraire*, the *Neptuno* drifted upon and fell on board the british three-decker ; which circumstance, probably, gave rise to the extraordinary mistake contained in the despatch of vice-admiral Collingwood, which represented the *Téméraire* as having been boarded by a french ship on one side, and by a spaniard on the other.

Of the nineteen ships composing the rear of the combined line, eleven were captured, and seven bore away to Cadiz and escaped ; leaving one ship only whose fate remains to be shown. The *Achille*, in her successive encounters with the english *Achille*, *Belleisle*, *Swiftsure*, and *Polypheumus*, had lost her

mizen-mast, main top-mast, and fore-yard; and having caught fire in her fore-top, the crew were preparing to cut away the fore-mast; when a broadside from the Prince severed the mast about its centre, and the burning wreck falling upon the boats on the booms, soon became in flames, which rapidly communicated to the decks below. The British around the french ship then ceased firing, and sent their boats to render assistance in rescuing the remainder of her gallant crew. At about 5 h. 45 m. P.M. the Achille exploded, and with her perished the officer then in command, (an enseigne-de-vaisseau), and a great portion of her crew. At this time her colours were flying, but the ship had certainly submitted two hours before, although not taken possession of. According to the official returns, the loss of killed and wounded on the part of the British amounted to 1690; but of this amount six-sevenths, or 1452, fell to the share of fourteen out of the twenty-seven ships composing the fleet; and with few exceptions, the ships so suffering were in the van of their respective columns. This was in consequence of the calm state of the weather, which exposed the leading ships, as they approached within range of the enemy's shot, for a considerable time to the deliberate and uninterrupted fire of seven or eight ships drawn up in line a-head, without being able to bring a gun to bear, until they reached close ahead or astern of their opponents as they cut through; and then the french and spanish ships, having closed for mutual support, were too seriously occupied with antagonists near at hand to bestow much attention upon those at a distance.

In describing the occurrences on board the Victory, we noticed the removal of lord Nelson from the quarter-deck, after he received his fatal wound, which lamented event occurred at about 1 h. 30 m. P.M. His lordship was placed on a bed in the midshipmen's starboard berth, and being stripped of his clothes the wound was soon ascertained to be mortal; and lord Nelson himself, it appears, was from the first fully impressed with that opinion. His sufferings were great, and he frequently called

for drink ; and desiring to be fanned with paper, kept constantly pushing from him the sheet which was his only covering. About ten minutes after the admiral received his wound, captain Hardy came down to visit him. They shook hands affectionately, and lord Nelson said, " Well, Hardy, how goes the battle ? How goes the day with us ? " " Very well, my lord," replied captain Hardy : " twelve or fourteen have struck ; but five of their van have tacked, and show an intention of bearing down upon the Victory : I have therefore called two or three of our ships around us." " I hope," said his lordship, " that none of our ships have struck." " No, my lord," captain Hardy replied ; " there is no fear of that." Lord Nelson then remarked, " I am a dead man, Hardy. I am going fast ; it will be all over with me soon." Subsequently, captain Hardy again descended to the cockpit ; and while holding his lordship by the hand, congratulated him on the victory, which he said was complete, and that fourteen or fifteen of the enemy had surrendered. His lordship observed, " That is well ; but I bargained for twenty." He then emphatically exclaimed, " Anchor, Hardy, anchor ! " Captain Hardy having alluded to admiral Collingwood taking the direction of affairs, " Not while I live, I hope, Hardy," cried the dying chief, in making an ineffectual effort to raise himself from the bed : " no," added he, " do *you* anchor, Hardy." The latter then asked, " Shall we make the signal, sir ? " " Yes," his lordship exclaimed, " for if I live, I'll anchor." In about a quarter of an hour after captain Hardy quitted the cockpit, lord Nelson became speechless ; and great as must have been his previous sufferings, he expired without a struggle or a groan, at about 4 h. 45 m. P.M.

" Thus," observes doctor Beatty, in his narrative of the last moments of lord Nelson ; " thus died this matchless hero, after performing, in a short but brilliant and well-timed life, a series of naval exploits unexampled in any age of the world. None of the sons of fame ever possessed greater zeal to promote the honour and interest of his king and country ; none ever served

them with more successful and important results. His character will ever cast a lustre over the annals of his nation, to whose enemies his very name was a terror. In the battle of Cape St. Vincent, though then in the subordinate station of a captain, his unprecedented personal prowess will long be recorded with admiration among his profession. The shores of Aboukir and Copenhagen witnessed those stupendous achievements which struck the whole civilized world with astonishment. Still, these were only preludes to the battle of Trafalgar, in which he shone with a majesty of dignity as far surpassing even his own former renown, as that renown had already exceeded every thing else to be found in the pages of naval history, the transcendently brightest star in a galaxy of heroes. His splendid example will operate as an everlasting impulse to the enterprising genius of the british navy."

The result of this battle was seventeen french and spanish ships captured, and one french ship burnt. Four french ships, which hauled to the southward, effected their escape; while admiral Gravina, with eleven spanish and french ships of the line and the frigates, stood away to the north-east, and anchored in course of the night about a mile and a half from Rota.

During the night the wind increased, and on the 22nd and 23rd the violence of the storm drove the greater part of the captured ships on shore, or so close to the coast as to render their destruction necessary; and some, under these desperate circumstances, were recaptured by their crews and carried into Cadiz. The only four prizes saved were the *San Ildefonsa*, *San Juan Nepomuceno*, *Bahama*, and *Swiftsure*, who were anchored on the evening of the 21st; and had their example been followed by the fleet, in accordance with lord Nelson's dying injunction, it is probable that the remainder of the captured ships would also have reached Gibraltar in safety.

Honours were abundantly conferred on every class of the naval officers, and a grateful country paid that tribute to the memory of lord Nelson which was commensurate with his worth

and the importance of the achievement he had died in consummating. His brother was created an earl, with a grant of £6000 per annum, £100,000 for the purchase of an estate, and £10,000 were voted to each of his sisters. The living participators in the glorious battle also received honours and rewards: the thanks of both houses of Parliament were unanimously voted to all who served in the fleet; vice-admiral Collingwood was made a baron, with a grant of £2000 per annum; rear-admiral Northesk appointed knight of the bath, and captain Hardy a baronet. Medals were given to the admirals and captains; five lieutenants were promoted to post rank; the first-lieutenants of all the ships engaged, and some others, made commanders, and mates and midshipmen from every ship obtained their well-earned promotion.

Amidst all these abundantly scattered rewards, only one solitary mark of distinction was extended to the corps of Marines serving in the fleet,—a force amounting to 92 officers and above 3,600 rank and file; of whom 2 captains and 2 subalterns were killed, 5 captains and 8 subalterns wounded: the brevet rank of major, conferred on captain Thomas Timmins, was considered adequate to the claims of the marines, whose gallant exertions so materially contributed to the important result of this gloriously-fought day!

The four french ships of the line under rear-admiral Dumanoir, that escaped on the evening of the battle on the 21st of October, stood to the westward until the squadron doubled Cape St. Vincent; and on the 29th it steered north, with the intention of entering Basque roads. Pursuing that course, the rear-admiral had reached the latitude of Cape Finisterre; when, on the 2nd of November at 11 A.M., they fell in with and chased the british 36-gun frigate *Phoenix*, captain Thomas Baker, who steered to the southward in the hope that he might lead the enemy into the hands of sir Richard Strachan, then cruising with five sail of the line off Ferrol. At 3 P.M. the *Phoenix* discovered four large ships bearing south, who soon becoming visible to the

chasing squadron, the latter hauled to the wind on the star-board tack ; but subsequently wore and stood to the eastward, while the *Phoenix*, firing guns and making signals, used every effort to join the ships to leeward, which were the *Cæsar* 80, *Hero*, *Namur*, *Courageux*, and *Bellona* of 74 guns, with frigates *Santa Margarita*, *Æolus*, and *Révolutionnaire*.

At 11 P.M. the *Phoenix* passed under the stern of the *Cæsar*, and informed sir Richard Strachan that an enemy's squadron was not far distant upon his lee-bow. The british ships being at that moment very much scattered, the commodore directed captain Baker to hasten up those astern ; and the *Cæsar* then bore away under all sail, with the wind at west north-west, followed at no great distance by the *Hero*, *Courageux*, and *Æolus*. Shortly after the *Cæsar* had made sail, the light of the moon discovered to sir Richard the objects of his pursuit in the east-north-east, under a press of canvas ; and bearing away, they closely formed in a bow and quarter line. The chase was continued until the setting of the moon, at about 1 h. 30 m. A.M. on the 3rd, accompanied by hazy blowing weather, concealed the enemy from view. Sir Richard therefore shortened sail to permit the ships astern to arrive up, and at daylight the *Santa Margarita*, with the three ships already named, joined the *Cæsar*. At 7 h. 30 m. Cape Ortegal was seen, bearing south-east half-east, distant thirty-six miles ; and at 9 A.M. the french ships again appearing in the north-north-east, the british squadron made all sail in that direction. At 11 A.M. the *Namur*, preceded by the *Phoenix*, and followed at some distance by the *Révolutionnaire*, were seen far astern with a strong breeze from the south-south-west : the *Santa Margarita*'s superior sailing enabled her to become the leading ship before evening, and the *Phoenix* was also despatched a-head to assist in harassing the enemy's rear. On the 4th, at daylight, the british had gained so far on the chase, that the *Cæsar*, still the leading line-of-battle ship of her squadron, was within six miles of the *Scipion*, the rearmost ship in the french line. At about 5 h. 45 m. A.M. the *Santa*

Margarita had approached sufficiently near to fire her starboard foremost guns, and shortly afterwards the Scipion brought her stern chasers to bear with effect upon the british frigate. At 9 h. 30 m. A.M. the Phoenix opened a fire from her larboard guns at the Scipion's quarter, and in this way the two frigates continued to harass the rear of the enemy; while the Cæsar, Hero, and Courageux, formed in line a-head, and favoured with a shift of wind to south-south-east, were rapidly approaching to take a more decided part in the contest.

Finding an action unavoidable, the french admiral at 11 h. 45 m. A.M. made the signal for his ships to take in their small sails, and haul up together on the starboard tack; they then fell into a line a-head in the following order: Duguay Trouin, Formidable, Mont Blanc, Scipion. At this time the Cæsar was about a mile distant on the weather-quarter of the rearmost french ship; but the Namur and Révolutionnaire were still at a considerable distance: the former more than twelve, and the latter about seven miles astern of the commodore, whilst the Æolus was barely within gun-shot. Sir Richard Strachan having hailed captains Gardner and Lee, and communicated his intention to attack the centre and rear of the enemy, edged away for the french admiral; who, with the other three ships of his squadron, were under top-sails and top-gallant sails, having the wind about a point abaft the starboard beam. The Cæsar, at about fifteen minutes past noon, opened her fire as she arrived within musket-shot of the Formidable, and in a minute or two afterwards the Hero and Courageux, in quick succession, discharged their broadsides into the Mont Blanc and Scipion: the three french ships instantly returned the fire, and a spirited action ensued. At this time the Namur was ten miles astern, using her utmost endeavour to get up.

At 5 P.M. the Duguay Trouin gallantly luffing up to rake the Cæsar a-head, unintentionally came round on the larboard tack, and passing to leeward of the Cæsar and Hero, received from each of them a destructive fire. The french admiral tacked to

support his second a-head, and was followed in that manœuvre by the two ships in his wake ; but the *Formidable* was so slack in stays, that she could not regain her station astern of the *Duguay Trouin*, and became the third, instead of the second ship. At 1 h. 20 m. P.M. the *Cæsar* wore after the enemy, and the *Hero* and *Courageux* successively tacked. At 1 h. 40 m. the commodore made the signal for the *Namur*, then on the weather-bow of the french ships, to attack the enemy's van, and for the *Hero* to lead on the larboard tack. The latter, followed at some distance by the *Courageux* and at a greater distance by the *Cæsar*, edged away towards the french squadron ; and at 2 P.M. the *Hero* recommenced the action by firing her starboard guns at the *Scipion* ; whilst the latter, having had her main top-mast shot away, fell to leeward, and became engaged with the *Courageux* to windward, and by the *Phoenix* and *Révolutionnaire* to leeward. The *Hero* in the mean time was enabled to place herself on the weather-bow of the *Formidable* ; but on the *Namur* arriving up and engaging the french admiral, captain Gardner made sail to close with the *Mont Blanc* ; which ship, as well as the *Duguay Trouin*, had occasionally raked the *Hero* while engaging the *Formidable*.

The *Cæsar* having meanwhile repaired her damages, was about to re-open her fire on the *Formidable*, when that ship, with her mizen top-mast over the side and other masts in a tottering state, hauled down her colours at 3 h. 5 m. P.M., and was taken possession of by the *Namur*, who had her main-yard cut in two, and was incapable of making sail. At 3 h. 10 m. the *Duguay Trouin* and *Mont Blanc* bore up, with the intention of forming a line a-head of the *Scipion* ; but the latter, by the united fire of the *Courageux* and frigates, having had her fore top-mast and mizen-mast shot away, struck her colours, and was taken possession of by the *Phoenix* and *Révolutionnaire*. The *Duguay Trouin* and *Mont Blanc*, observing the fate of the *Scipion* and *Formidable*, endeavoured to make off, but were soon overtaken by the *Hero* and *Cæsar* ; and after a close and

sharp action of twenty minutes, the two french ships, being reduced to a shattered and defenceless condition, and observing the *Courageux* ready to re-open her fire, hauled down their colours; the *Duguay Trouin* striking to the *Hero*, and the *Mont Blanc* to the *Cæsar*.

BRITISH SQUADRON.

Cæsar, captain sir Richard J. Strachan, 4 killed, 25 wounded.

Captain of marines George Lewis, lieutenant James Jackson, second-lieutenant Charles Dunford.

Hero, captain hon. A. Gardner, 10 killed, 51 wounded. Captain-lieutenant of marines Thomas Phillips, second-lieutenant Robert Morrison (killed), Cornelius John Stevenson (wounded).

Namur, captain L. W. Halstead, 4 killed, 8 wounded. Captain of marines William Clements (wounded), second-lieutenants William Nichol and T. Osborne.

Courageux, captain Richard Lee, 1 killed, 13 wounded. First-lieutenants of marines Richard Edwards and George O'Neal.

Santa Margarita, captain William Rathbone, 1 killed, 1 wounded.

Phoenix, captain T. Baker, 2 killed, 4 wounded. Lieutenant of marines John P. Pleydell, second-lieutenant Alexander Campbell.

Révolutionnaire, captain hon. Henry Hotham, 2 killed, 6 wounded. Lieutenant of marines Richard T. Parsons, second-lieutenant James J. Willes.

Æolus, captain lord Henry Fitzroy, 3 wounded. Lieutenant of marines William Baker.

The total loss sustained by the British amounted to 24 killed, and 111 wounded.

The french ships suffered severely: the *Formidable* having 200 killed and wounded, including among the latter rear-admiral Dumanoir, in two places. The *Scipion's* loss was in about the same proportion, including captain Berenger among the wounded; the *Mont Blanc* 180, and the *Duguay Trouin* had

her captain Claude Touffet killed, and 150 men *hors de combat*, making a total of 730 in killed and wounded. All four ships had suffered so severely in their masts and rigging, that in a short time after the action, the fore-masts of the Formidable and Mont Blanc were the only sticks left standing. The forlorn condition to which they were reduced, afforded evident proof of their having been defended to the last extremity; and in justice it must be stated, that although the Formidable is rated as mounting 80 guns, she had only 65 in the action: three having been dismounted in the battle of Trafalgar, and 12 of her quarter-deck twelve-pounders were thrown over board during the present chase.

The four prizes reached Plymouth in safety, and were all added to the british navy: the Formidable was named the Brave, the Duguay Trouin became the Implacable, and the other two retained their own names.

Sir Richard Strachan was invested with the order of the Bath on the 29th of January, 1806, and the thanks of Parliament were voted to those who participated in the action. Gold medals were distributed to the respective captains, the first-lieutenants of the line-of-battle ships were made commanders, and captain Hugh Holland of the marines obtained the brevet rank of major.

On the 13th of December eleven sail of the line escaped from the harbour of Brest, and on the following day they separated into two squadrons: one composed of five sail of the line and two frigates, under the command of vice-admiral Leissegues; the other, consisting of six ships of the line and two frigates, under rear-admiral Willaumez. The former, provisioned for six months, having 1000 troops on board, was to proceed to San Domingo, and then cruise before Jamaica and Newfoundland; while the squadron of rear-admiral Willaumez steered for St. Helena or the Cape; and after visiting Martinique or Guadaloupe for supplies, they were to cruise off Barbadoes, and then return to Europe by way of St. Helena.

Intelligence reached the Admiralty on the 24th of December of the escape of the french squadron from Brest, and in the latter part of January two british squadrons were despatched in pursuit of the enemy. Vice-admiral sir John Borlase Warren with seven sail of the line was directed to proceed to the island of Madeira on his route to Barbadoes; and if no tidings could be obtained, he was to leave a portion of his force with rear-admiral Cochrane, then run down to Jamaica, and if still unsuccessful in his pursuit, to return to Spithead. Sir Richard Strachan with six sail of the line was to steer straight for St. Helena, and not finding any information of the proceedings of the french squadron, to make the best of his way to the Cape of Good Hope, and reinforce the expedition which had been sent to effect the capture of that important settlement.

The french squadrons, after separating, were seen on the 15th of December by the *Arethusa* and *Boadicea* frigates, with a convoy from Cork to the West Indies; who were pursued by vice-admiral Leissegues until the evening of the 16th, when the enemy tacked to the south-west. On the 17th the squadron was again seen by the british frigates; but after a few hours they gave over the pursuit, and allowed the *Arethusa* with her charge to pursue their course.

On the 23rd, when midway between Madeira and the Canary islands, the *Arethusa* fell in with six ships of the line and two frigates, under vice-admiral sir John T. Duckworth; who, on receiving information that the enemy had been seen between Madeira and Teneriffe, had raised the blockade of Cadiz, and hastened towards Madeira in quest of the enemy. Arriving there on the 5th of December, and touching at Teneriffe on the 15th, the vice-admiral stood to the southward as far as the Cape de Verds; and was on his return to resume the blockade of Cadiz, when fallen in with by the *Arethusa*.

On the 25th, being close hauled on the starboard tack with the wind about east half-north, nine sail were discovered standing to the southward. All sail was made in chase, and the pur-

suit continued until 1 P.M. on the 26th, at which time the *Superb* was within seven miles of the sternmost of the french squadron, but the remainder of the British were so scattered, that the rearmost ship was not visible to the admiral; consequently the pursuit was discontinued, and having despatched the *Amethyst* to England, with information that the supposed destination of the french squadron was the Cape of Good Hope, sir John bore away to get a supply of water at the leeward islands.

On the 2nd of January, 1806, the *Powerful* was detached to the East Indies to reinforce rear-admiral sir Edward Pellew; on the 12th the remaining five sail of the line and one frigate anchored in Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes; and on the 19th they arrived in Basse-terre road, St. Christopher's, where they were joined on the 21st by the *Northumberland* and *Atlas*. The ships had commenced refitting for their homeward passage, when on the 1st of February the *Kingfisher* brought information that three french ships of the line had been seen steering towards the city of San Domingo. The british squadron, now consisting of seven ships of the line, a frigate and a sloop, immediately weighed and made sail in search of the enemy. Having passed the island of Zacheo, in the Mona passage, on the 4th, they reached the east end of the island of San Domingo at 8 A.M. on the 5th, and shortly afterwards learnt from the *Magicienne* frigate, that the enemy's ships were in San Domingo road.

Steering under easy sail during the night, the british squadron arrived off the city of San Domingo at day-break on the 6th of February; at 6 h. A.M. the *Acasta* made the signal for two frigates, and at 6 h. 45 m. "nine sail at anchor." These were the ships under vice-admiral Leissegues, consisting of the *Impérial* 120 guns, *Alexandre* 80, *Brave*, *Diomède*, and *Jupiter*, of 74 guns each; frigates *Cornète* and *Félicité*, and ship-corvette *Diligente*. After chasing the *Arethusa* and her convoy, as related, the french ships encountered a heavy gale of wind, in

which the *Alexandre* and *Brave* parted company ; and the vice-admiral with his remaining ships having bore up, anchored in the road of San Domingo on the 20th of January, where the *Alexandre* and *Brave* rejoined on the 29th. The troops, together with the ammunition and stores, were landed, and the ships set about repairing their damages ; which they had nearly completed, when they were discovered by the british squadron.

On ascertaining the force that was approaching them, the french ships slipped their cables, and at 7 h. 30 m. A. M. made sail to the westward, in the direction of Cape Nisao, with a light breeze at north-north-west, formed in line of battle in the following order : — *Alexandre*, *Impérial*, *Diomède*, *Jupiter*, and *Brave*, with the frigates and corvette in a second line, in-shore of them.

Having immediately shaped a course so as to cross the leading french ships, the admiral telegraphed that his principal object of attack would be the french admiral and his two seconds ; and at 8 A. M. the british squadron, in two divisions, was in tolerably compact order as follows :—

Superb, vice-admiral sir J. T. Duckworth, K. B., captain Richard Keats, 6 killed, 56 wounded. Captain of marines Philip Patriarch, first-lieutenant Thomas H. Donne, second-lieutenant Robert Webb.

Northumberland, rear-admiral hon. Alexander Cochrane, captain John Morrison, 21 killed, 79 wounded. Captain of marines Robert Lynch, first-lieutenant James Weir, second-lieutenant George Nelson.

Spencer, Captain the honourable Robert Stopford, 18 killed, 50 wounded. Captain of marines W. Barry, second-lieutenant James Cuthbertson (badly wounded), lieutenants Henry Lewis and Hugh Parry.

Agamemnon, captain sir Edward Berry, 1 killed, 13 wounded. Captain of marines H. B. Downing, second-lieutenants Herbert Raban and Donald Campbell.

Canopus, rear-admiral Thomas Louis, captain F. W. Austen, 8 killed, 22 wounded. Captain of marines James Malcolm, lieutenants Robert Stewart and Vans Walker.

Donegal, captain Pulteney Malcolm, 12 killed, 33 wounded. First-lieutenant of marines W. B. M'Mullen, second-lieutenant Alexander Smith.

Atlas, captain Samuel Pym, 8 killed, 11 wounded. Lieutenants of marines James R. Goddard and George D. Harrison.

Total—74 killed, and 264 wounded.

The *Acasta* and *Magicienne* frigates, *Kingfisher* sloop, and *Epervier* brig, had in the mean time taken their stations to windward of the line-of-battle ships.

The inequality of sailing among the british ships was so great, that by 10 A. M. the *Agamemnon* had dropt considerably astern; and the *Canopus*, the leading ship of the larboard division, was at about the same distance from the three advanced ships of the weather line, who were in close order, and gaining fast upon the enemy's squadron. Owing to the shift of wind, which was blowing from the north-east by east, the french ships were now steering with it about a point upon the starboard quarter, and at 9 h. 45 m. they hoisted their colours. The *Superb* having shortened sail, opened her fire at 10 h. 10 m. from her starboard guns upon the *Alexandre*, and in three minutes afterwards the *Northumberland* was in action with the three-decker. In another five minutes the *Spencer*, when close upon the starboard quarter of the *Northumberland*, joined in the cannonade, making the *Diomède* her immediate opponent, but firing her bow guns occasionally at the *Impérial*: at this time all the ships engaged were running nearly before the wind, at the rate of about eight knots an hour.

After the exchange of three broadsides, the *Alexandre* hauled suddenly up on the larboard tack, and passed astern of the *Superb* and *Northumberland*, leaving the *Impérial* in close action with the two british ships. The *Alexandre* attempted to pass through the interval between the *Northumberland* and

Spencer; but the latter, after pouring in a raking broadside, crossed the bow of the french ship, and wearing round, brought her to action on the larboard tack. The Northumberland having gallantly pushed in between the Superb and the Impérial, received the heavy fire which had been intended for the british vice-admiral, and the french three-decker continued nobly to defend herself against her two antagonists, until other ships arrived up, as we shall presently relate. The Alexandre and Spencer were now sharply engaged, with their heads to the southward, while the remaining ships of both squadrons continued their course to the westward. At about 10 h. 35 m. A.M. the Canopus, leading the lee division, poured in her broadside whilst crossing the bows of the Alexandre, which brought down her three masts by the board; and the dismasted ship afterwards received the passing fire of the Donegal and Atlas. The Canopus then stood on towards the Impérial and Diomède, while the Donegal and Atlas became the opponents of the Brave and Jupiter. The Spencer, on finding that the Alexandre, besides being totally dismasted, was on fire, filled, and at 11 A. M. bore away to take a further share in the contest. The Donegal, after discharging her starboard broadside at the Brave, wore under her stern, and engaged the french ship with her larboard guns until the Brave struck her colours. The Donegal then made sail, and after the discharge of some broadsides from her larboard guns into the Jupiter, (who, as well as the Brave, had been previously engaged by the Atlas and one or two other british ships), ranged a-head, and ran her opponent on board; receiving the french ship's bowsprit just over her larboard quarter, and securing it there, she soon compelled the Jupiter to haul down her colours.

After quitting the Jupiter and following the Canopus, the Atlas, at about 11 A. M., fired two broadsides into the Impérial, and then bearing up under the latter's stern, raked her; but unfortunately at this moment the tiller of the Atlas became jammed, and she was consequently exposed to a heavy fire on

her quarter from the *Diomède*. In the confusion she ran foul of the *Canopus*, who was close a-head, and without doing any essential damage to the latter, carried away her own bowsprit. Heaving all aback, the *Atlas*, in clearing herself from the *Canopus*, dropped along the larboard side of the *Diomède*. Both ships were smartly engaged for nearly a quarter of an hour, when the *Spencer* came up, and after firing at the *Brave* in passing, stood towards the *Impérial*; but the latter was so near the shore, that the *Spencer* joined the *Atlas* in her contest with the *Diomède*, and crossing that ship's bows, hauled up on the starboard tack. In the mean time the *Diomède* ran on shore, and as she took the ground her three masts went by the board; nevertheless, the french ship still continued to fire at the *Atlas* and *Canopus*, until they made sail to rejoin the admiral.

The *Impérial*, after sustaining the fire of the *Superb*, *Northumberland*, and *Canopus*, and having lost her main and mizen-masts, hauled towards the land, then not more than a mile distant: still fired at by the *Superb* and her former opponent, the three-decker struck the ground at 11 h. 40 m., when the shock caused her fore-mast to fall over the side. Shortly afterwards the *Impérial* fired a gun to leeward, and her people having flocked to the upper deck in apparent distress, the british ships discontinued to molest her.

Thus, in less than two hours, the enemy's five ships of the line had been either captured or driven on shore; but the two frigates and corvette, having got well to leeward during the action, and not having been pursued by the british frigates, made their escape. About noon the main-mast of the *Northumberland* fell forward on the booms, destroying the boats and doing considerable injury. The captured ships suffered very severely: the *Impérial*, according to the french account, lost 500 men in killed and wounded, the *Diomède* 250, the *Alexandre* 300, *Brave* 260, and *Jupiter* 200. The *Alexandre* was so shattered, that it was only with difficulty this fine 80-gun ship could be kept afloat. Neither the *Jupiter* nor the *Brave* had their masts

shot away, nor was the Jupiter materially damaged in her hull. The *Impérial*, with the *Diomède* within 200 yards of her, lay broadside on, about midway between Point Nisao and Point Catalana; and such was the rocky state of the coast, that their bottoms were stove in very soon after they had struck the ground. On the 8th the *Acasta*, after rescuing the few of the french crews remaining on board, set fire to both ships, and they were destroyed. Honours and promotion rewarded the officers who had assisted in obtaining this victory. Rear-admiral Cochrane was invested with the order of the Bath, and rear-admiral Louis created a baronet. The first-lieutenant of each flag-ship was promoted to post rank, the second made a commander, and the commander's rank bestowed upon the first-lieutenants of the remaining four ships. Captain James Malcolm, of the marines, obtained the brevet rank of major.

To return to the squadron of rear-admiral Willaumez, we find that on reaching the Cape of Good Hope this officer learnt, to his great disappointment, that the colony had submitted to the british flag: thus baffled, he continued to cruise until the month of April, and after obtaining provisions at St. Salvador, proceeded to Cayenne; then dividing his force into three squadrons, they cruised successfully for some months, although frequently chased by british ships. Sailing towards the coast of Newfoundland, on the 1st of August a violent storm dispersed the squadron, dismasting and damaging the whole of them. On the 14th of September the 74-gun ship *Impétueux*, under jury-masts, fell in with the british 74-gun ships *Belleisle* and *Bellona*, and the *Melampus* frigate: in the crippled state of the ship, there was no alternative but to bear up for the land; and having hoisted her colours, the *Impétueux* ran ashore near Cape Henry, where she was burnt by the British. The *Foudroyant*, after refitting at Havanna, reached Rochefort, whilst the *Patriote*, *Casard*, and *Veteran*, also found their way to a safe port; but the *Eole* was taken to pieces at Annapolis.

The success of the emperor Napoléon at Austerlitz, enabled

him to conclude a treaty of peace with Austria at Presburg ; and about the same time a treaty with Prussia was signed at Vienna. Austria renounced her claim to the Venetian states, and signified her approval of their being annexed to the kingdom of Italy, reserving the comparatively insignificant port of Trieste, at the head of the Adriatic, as her only portion in the Mediterranean. Being at peace with these two powers, and the Prussian army having withdrawn from Austria, Napoléon seized the opportunity to punish Ferdinand of Naples for having, in direct violation of a treaty of neutrality, concluded on the 8th of October, 1805, suffered a combined english and russian force to land on his territory on the 20th of the following November. The Russians, amounting to about 14,000 men, occupied Naples and the environs ; and 10,000 British, under general sir James Craig, were cantoned at Castel-a-Mare and its vicinity : moreover, the king of Naples was levying an army, and providing the necessary magazines and stores for its use.

On the 28th of December, the very day after the treaty of Presburg had been signed, Napoléon issued a proclamation from his head-quarters at Vienna, declaring that the neapolitan dynasty was at an end. This denouncement induced the two allies of Naples to consult their own safety : the russian troops retired to Corfu, and the english army, having also re-embarked, were conveyed to Messina, in Sicily. The king of Naples became alarmed, and quitting his capital on the 23rd of January, embarked on board the *Excellent 74*, which ship conveyed his majesty to Palermo, leaving his eldest son, the duke of Calabria, as regent ; but on the 7th of February the duke also quitted the kingdom. In the mean time the french army under general Massena, with Joseph Buonaparte for its nominal head, and assisted by general Regnier, had reached the frontier ; on the 9th they were at Ferentino, whence the french troops advanced in three divisions : the right, under Regnier, marched to Gaeta, a strong post situated upon a rocky promontory, three sides of which were washed by the sea, and the fourth connected with

the continent by a narrow and well-fortified isthmus; whilst the centre division, under Massena, advanced straight to Naples. On the 12th and 15th they had possession of Capua, as well as of the capital; and before the end of March, the French had placed garrisons in Scylla and Tarento, and the whole kingdom, with the exception of Gaeta and Civitella del Tranto, in the further Abruzzo, had submitted.

On the 21st of April rear-admiral sir Sidney Smith, in the *Pompée* 74, arrived at Palermo, to take the command of the squadron assembled there for the defence of Sicily, consisting of the *Pompée*, *Excellent*, and the two 64-gun ships *Athenien* and *Intrepid*, with two british and a neapolitan frigate, together with some neapolitan gun and mortar-boats. Sir Sidney immediately adopted measures for throwing supplies into Gaeta, which he accomplished under a heavy fire from the besiegers, landing at the same time four of the *Excellent's* lower-deck guns. Considering that the best means of co-operating with the prince of Hesse Philipsthaal in defending the fort, which he had so gallantly maintained, would be to draw off a part of the attacking force for the defence of Naples, sir Sidney proceeded thither with the four ships of the line, leaving the 32-gun frigate *Juno*, the neapolitan frigate, and twelve gun-boats.

The garrison, having embarked 60 men in four fishing-boats, accompanied by the armed boats of the two frigates, landed on the night of the 12th of April in a small bay in the rear of a battery of four guns, which the enemy abandoned on their approach; and the troops re-embarked without loss, after spiking the guns and destroying the carriages. On the 15th the garrison of Gaeta made another sortie, supported by two divisions of gun-boats under captain Richardson, and the armed boats of the *Juno* under lieutenant Thomas Wells, assisted by lieutenant Robert M. Mant of the marines. In this affair the British had 4 killed and 5 wounded.

On the 30th of March Joseph Buonaparte caused himself to

be proclaimed king of Naples, and on the arrival of sir Sidney in the bay, he found the city illuminated on the occasion of his coronation as king of the Two Sicilies. The 74-gun ship *Eagle* was now added to the british squadron, which consisted of the *Pompée*, *Eagle*, and *Excellent* of 74, and the *Athenien* and *Intrepid* of 64 guns.

On the 11th a summons was sent to the french officer commanding the garrison on the island of Capri ; and on his refusing to capitulate, the *Eagle* was judiciously placed in a position to cover the landing, and so near the shore, that a seaman was killed and her first-lieutenant wounded by musketry before she opened her fire. After a heavy cannonade from the 74 and two neapolitan mortar-boats, from 9 till 10 A.M., the French were driven from the vineyards within their walls. The disembarkation of a storming-party immediately took place, consisting of seamen under the command of two lieutenants, and the marines under captain Richard Bunce, assisted by captain John Stannus and lieutenant George P. Carroll. The detachment gallantly mounted the steps that led to the heights, and captain Stannus, being in the advance, attacked and killed the french commandant. On this event being known, the garrison beat a parley, and were allowed to capitulate on honourable terms. The total loss sustained by the British did not exceed 2 killed and 10 wounded.

Sir Sidney, after placing an english garrison in Capri, proceeded along the coast to the southward, cutting off the enemy's communications, in order to retard the operations against Gaeta. On his return to Palermo, the rear-admiral assisted Ferdinand in persuading sir John Stuart to invade Calabria ; and on the 1st of July, 4800 british infantry were landed without opposition in the gulf of St. Eufemia. On the afternoon of the 3rd, the british general received intelligence that general Regnier with an immediate french force of 4000 infantry and 300 cavalry, and an hourly-expected reinforcement of 3000 more troops, was encamped on the slope of a woody hill, below the

village of Maida, and distant about 10 miles from the position of the British. In the hope of being able to attack the enemy before the reinforcement could arrive, sir John Stuart pushed forward on the morning of the 4th; but the expected division joined on the previous evening, and general Regnier had now under his immediate command above 7000 men. With the desire of having the assistance of his cavalry, the french general descended into the plain in front of his position; and here was fought the famous battle of Maida, which was gloriously won by the firmness of the british troops with the bayonet, and with so trifling a loss as one officer, 3 serjeants, and 41 rank and file killed; 11 officers, 6 serjeants, 2 drummers, and 261 rank and file wounded: whilst the loss on the part of the French was estimated at nearly 4000 men.

In consequence of this victory the British, become possessed of the forts along the coast, and of all the dépôts of arms and ammunition, prepared for the attack of Sicily. By the end of July the british army was withdrawn from Calabria, with the exception of the garrison of Scylla, and a detachment of the 78th regiment under lieutenant-colonel McLeod, conveyed to the coast near Calanzaro in the Amphion 32, captain William Hoste. An attack was made by these two officers on the 30th of July upon the important post of Cotrone; and greatly owing to the judicious manner in which captain Hoste placed the Amphion and some neapolitan gun-boats, that fortress, containing upwards of 600 french troops, together with all its stores and magazines, surrendered to the british arms.

Shortly afterwards the French evacuated both Calabrias, but the fortress of Gaeta was closely invested by the enemy, who brought their artillery to act with such effect, that on the 12th of July this important post surrendered by capitulation. This success gave fresh energy to the French, and before the end of the year they regained possession of every place of importance in the two Calabrias except Scylla, which was still retained by the British; and this, united with their occupation of Messina on

the opposite side of the Faro, gave them the entire command of the strait.

On the 6th of January, in the evening, the 36-gun frigate *Franchise*, having anchored abreast the town of Campeachy, and in consequence of the shallowness of the water at a distance of five leagues from the shore, despatched her launch, barge, and pinnace under the orders of lieutenant John Fleming, assisted by several officers, and among that number lieutenant of marines Herbert Bowen Mends, with orders to scour the bay. Owing to the distance and the darkness of the night, the boats did not reach the anchorage until 4 A. M. on the 7th; by which time the moon had risen, and their approach having been consequently discovered, it gave ample time to the Spaniards to make every preparation for defence, by tricing up their boarding-nettings, and projecting their sweeps from the sides of the vessels to obstruct the boats in their approach. By this time the alarm had spread rapidly from one end of the bay to the other; but nothing could damp the ardour of the British, who pushing onward presently saw approaching them two spanish brigs of war, an armed schooner, and seven gun-boats; all of which opened a smart fire on the boats. Lieutenant Fleming in the launch dashed forward, and with lieutenant Mends boarded the nearest brig; and being supported by the other two boats, after an obstinate conflict of ten minutes duration, they carried the spanish brig-corvette *Raposa*, pierced for 16 but mounting 12 carriage guns, and having on board 75 men. This gallant exploit was accomplished with a loss to the British of only lieutenant Mends and 6 men wounded. The *Raposa* had an officer and 4 men killed, and 26 wounded, many of them mortally; besides several who had jumped overboard and were drowned. The remaining brig, mounting 20 guns, with a crew of 180 men, and the schooner of 8 guns, together with the gun-boats, opened a fire of cannon and musketry upon the *Raposa*; but the latter and the boats so smartly returned their fire, that the flotilla soon retired to its former position, leaving the British to carry off their prize in

triumph. The gallant services of lieutenant Mends were rewarded by a handsome sword, presented to him by the Patriotic Fund, valued at £50.

On the 8th of March the boats of the 44-gun frigate *Egyptienne*, captain the honourable Charles Paget, were detached under the orders of captain P. C. Handfield, assisted by lieutenant Alleyn, and lieutenant of marines Edward Hancock Garthwaite, to endeavour to capture a large frigate-built french privateer, anchored in the port of Muros, near Cape Finisterre. Although this vessel (which was the *Alcide* of Bordeaux, pierced for 34 guns and carrying a complement when at sea of 240 men) was moored close to the beach, under the protection of two batteries that kept up an incessant fire until the ship was out of range, the enterprise fully succeeded, without any loss on the part of the British.

On the 13th of March, at 3 A.M., the 98-gun ship *London*, captain sir Harry B. Neale, being to windward, and somewhat astern of the *Foudroyant* 80, and *Amazon* 38, was steering to the south-east with the wind from the south-west, when she discovered two strange sail. The *London* immediately wore in chase, making signals to her companions, and in a short time was enabled to fire upon the strangers, who were the *Marengo* 74, rear-admiral Linois, and the *Belle Poule* 40-gun frigate, returning to France from the East Indies.

At 5 h. 30 m. A.M. the *London* got alongside of the *Marengo*, then on the larboard tack, and a sharp action was maintained until 6 A.M., when the *Marengo* hauled off and made sail a-head. The *Belle Poule*, then on the lee-bow of the *London*, now became opposed to the british three-decker, but at 7 A.M. the *Amazon*, captain William Parker, came up, and passing the *London*, soon got alongside the *Belle Poule*, who had stood on a-head out of shot of her former opponent, and at 8 h. 30 m. both frigates were warmly engaged. A running fight was maintained by the *London* and *Marengo* until 10 h. 25 m. A.M., when the *Foudroyant* having arrived sufficiently near to

take part in the action, the Marengo struck her colours, and about the same time the Belle Poule surrendered to the Amazon.

The loss on board the London amounted to 9 killed and 22 wounded. The Amazon had her first-lieutenant Richard Seymour, second-lieutenant of marines Edward Prior, and one seaman killed, and 5 wounded. The loss of the Marengo amounted to 63 killed and 82 wounded. The Belle Poule had 6 killed and 24 wounded. First-lieutenant Edward S. Brown was serving on board the Amazon.

On the 26th of March, in the afternoon, the 36-gun frigate Pique, captain C. B. H. Ross, when crossing from St. Domingo to Curaçoa, fell in with the french 16-gun brigs Voltigeur and Phæton, who were on the starboard tack, standing for the land with a fresh breeze from the south-east. The Pique immediately made sail in chase, and after an hour's distant firing closed with the two brigs at 2 P. M. In about twenty minutes the sternmost brig, the Phæton, having had her peak and gaff-halliards shot away, fell on board the starboard beam of the frigate. In an instant lieutenants Ward and Baker, Richard Thompson the master, and lieutenant William Henry Craig of the marines, leading the boarders, sprang on board the Phæton; and as there was no appearance of resistance, the Pique, clearing herself, stood after the Voltigeur, who was crowding sail to get away. At this moment a great proportion of the french crew, headed by their officers, rushed from under the fore and aft main-sail, where they had been concealed, and opened a destructive fire upon the British; by which Mr. Thompson and 8 seamen were killed, lieutenants Ward, Baker, Craig, and 11 seamen and marines wounded.

On perceiving the renewal of the contest on board the brig, the Pique again closed and sent a reinforcement, who soon revenged themselves for the loss of their comrades, and compelled the french crew to sue for quarter. The Pique then crowded sail after the Voltigeur, and captured her before she could reach the land, without any further resistance. On the 1st of Novem-

ber three boats of the Pique, under lieutenant Charles Bell, assisted by lieutenant of marines Edward Bailie, were detached to intercept a schooner coming round Cape Roxo, Porto Rico; but owing to a heavy squall, attended with rain, the boats lost sight of her in the night. These enterprising officers then pushed in for Cabaret bay, where they boarded and captured a fine spanish copper-bottomed brig, pierced for 12 guns, which they brought out in safety, after they had landed and destroyed a three-gun battery.


On the 3rd of May, in the evening, when cruising to the north-east of Cape Palos, the boats of the 36-gun frigate *Renommée*, captain sir Thomas Livingstone, were despatched under the command of lieutenant sir William Parker, assisted by several officers, and among that number lieutenant Henry Murton of the marines, to cut out from the port of Torre Vieja the spanish schooner *Giganta*, of 2 long twenty-four-pounders in the bow, 3 long four-pounder carriage guns, and 4 two-pounder swivels, with a crew of 28 men. The schooner was lying chain-moored within pistol-shot of the batteries, fully prepared for the attack, with her boarding netting triced up. Notwithstanding this formidable opposition, the *Giganta* was carried after a spirited resistance, and safely brought out, with no greater loss than 1 midshipman and 6 men wounded; on the part of the enemy 9 men were wounded.

On the 3rd of April, in the evening, the 36-gun frigate *Melpomene*, captain Peter Parker, sent her boats in-shore, and at day-break on the 4th they separated in chase of several vessels. The barge, commanded by lieutenant Thompson, assisted by lieutenant Henry Barnet Gascoigne of the marines, Whitwell Butler master's mate, serjeant Thomas Milligan of the marines, with a crew of 18 seamen, after a long pull came up with a large french settee, armed with 4 six-pounders and 12 mounted musketons, and defended by a crew of 18 men. At this time the frigate lay becalmed in the offing, half top-sails down; and the other boats had gone off to her with the prizes captured at day-

light. Notwithstanding that the settee was fully prepared, having a strong netting triced up, and every man with a spare musket and pistols at his side, the barge pulled gallantly up, cheered by the officers as the enemy opened a well-directed fire, by which lieutenant Thompson and 7 men were killed, and 8 severely wounded, leaving only lieutenant Gascoigne (who was also wounded), Mr. Butler, serjeant Milligan, and 3 men able to board. Covered by the smoke, which concealed the loss the British had sustained, the remaining six instantly sprang on board, and in spite of a determined resistance made good their footing on the enemy's deck. Three Frenchmen were killed in the struggle, and the remainder, having been driven overboard, were separately picked up and secured.

Serjeant Milligan being in the bow of the barge, was the first man that got on board the settee, and being closely followed by his 5 comrades, they drove the Frenchmen before them, 5 of whom jumped into their own boat, taking with them their arms and ammunition. Considering that if these men pulled from alongside they might do much mischief, Milligan instantly leaped into the midst of them, and being overpowered, was seized and thrown overboard; but in the struggle he grappled and carried with him one of his antagonists, whom he killed with his cutlass when in the water. The serjeant was afterwards picked up much exhausted, having received several wounds in this gallant conflict.

Lieutenant Gascoigne addressed a recommendation on behalf of the serjeant to lieutenant-general Barclay, commanding the Chatham division, having had it previously countersigned by sir Sidney Smith and captain Parker. It was read at the head of the division, entered on the records, and transmitted to the committee of the Patriotic Fund at Lloyd's, who in consequence voted the sum of £40 to the serjeant. About this time so much had been said in the House of Commons with reference to the loss of the many valuable lives in boat actions, that the despatches of captain Parker and of sir Sidney Smith, reporting



this gallant enterprise, never appeared in the *Gazette*. From that circumstance Mr. Butler lost his promotion, and the committee at Lloyd's was restricted from presenting rewards to the surviving officers and men ; and to the relations of the gallant slain those consolatory testimonials bestowed on similar occasions. The wounds of Mr. Gascoigne brought on a lingering illness, which caused him to be invalided home ; and some time afterwards to retire on half-pay. The lord High Admiral, to mark his sense of lieutenant Gascoigne's claim, gave his son a commission in the corps in which his parent had served with so much distinction.

On the 5th of April the boats of the Pallas frigate boarded the french corvette Tapageuse, anchored in the Gironde, twenty miles above the shoals of Cordouan ; and although pursued by a sloop of war and opposed by the fire from the batteries, she was safely brought out ; but before the boats reached the Pallas, the frigate was engaged with three french ships. Captain Cochrane observes, " In a few minutes the anchor was weighed, and with the remainder of the officers and crew we chased and drove on shore and wrecked one national ship of 24 guns, one of 22 guns, and the Malicieuse, a beautiful corvette of 18 guns ; their masts went by the board, and they were involved in a sheet of spray. The assistance rendered by lieutenant Drummond of the marines was such as might have been expected." None were killed, and only 3 wounded on board the Pallas.

On the 17th of April the 36-gun frigate Sirius, captain Wm. Prowse, while cruising to the eastward of Civita-Vecchia, gained intelligence that a flotilla of armed vessels was about to sail from that port for Naples. All sail was immediately made by the Sirius in that direction, and at 4 h. 15 m. P. M. the object of her pursuit was seen near the shore. This flotilla consisted of the ship-corvette Bergère of 18 guns, with 189 men, commodore Duclos, brig-corvettes Abeille of 18 guns and 160 men, Legère and Janus of 12 guns each, Victoire bombarde of 12 long eighteen-pounders and two heavy mortars, a cutter, and

three gun-ketches,—mounting altogether 97 guns. It was just sunset when the *Sirius* closed with the flotilla, which, formed in compact order, was lying to near a shoal at the mouth of the Tiber, awaiting the attack. About 7 P.M., when within pistol-shot, the frigate opened both her broadsides, and continued closely engaged during two hours; at which time the firing ceased with the surrender of the *Bergère*, for the *Sirius* was too much disabled to pursue the remainder of the flotilla, several having made off before their commodore struck his colours. The loss sustained by the British amounted to 9 killed and 20 wounded. Lieutenant William Murray was serving on board the *Sirius* in this gallant action.


On the evening of the 22nd of June, two boats of the 32-gun frigate *Minerva*, when lying becalmed in Finisterre bay, were despatched by captain G. R. Collier, under the command of lieutenant W. H. Mulcaster, assisted by lieutenant Ogle Moore, and lieutenant of marines Charles Menzies, to scour the neighbouring coast, and attempt to capture some luggers, of which information had been received. On arriving at the place where the vessels were lying, it was found necessary to carry the fort which protected them, mounting 8 brass twenty-four and twelve-pounders. The party immediately landed, and before the Spaniards had time to raise the drawbridge, or to discharge a twelve-pounder at the entrance, the British rushed in with the bayonet and drove the enemy over the parapet. Having spiked the guns and thrown them over the walls, they took possession of five luggers laden with wine; and although exposed to a fire from a 2-gun battery to the southward of the town, the British triumphantly brought out their prizes without sustaining any loss.

On the 9th of July, while the *Minerva* was lying in the road of Oporto, the barge, under the command of lieutenant Mulcaster, accompanied by lieutenant Charles Menzies of the marines, was sent to cruise several leagues to the northward, to intercept the privateers and row-boats lurking in the creeks and rivers on

the coast; and on the 11th, after a fatiguing row of nearly forty miles, they fell in with the spanish lugger-privateer Buena Dieha, of 1 long eighteen-pounder and small arms, with a crew of 26 men. The barge was received by a heavy fire of grape from the bow-gun of the privateer, but nothing could withstand the impetuosity of the attack: the boat's crew quickly boarded and carried the lugger, killing one of her crew and wounding five others, without sustaining any loss on their own part.

On the 2nd of October, while the 32-gun frigate Minerva was at anchor off Oro island, near the entrance of Porto Novo, captain Collier, accompanied by lieutenant Charles Menzies of the marines, in the cutter, followed by lieutenant Paumier in the barge, proceeded to reconnoitre the Bay of Rocks in quest of some spanish gun-boats, known to be at Carril. After a pull of seven hours, the cutter was hailed by a gun-boat, mounting one long twenty-four pounder in the bow, and 2 short brass fours, with a crew of 30 men, lying at anchor within pistol-shot of the shore, attended by a small gun-launch with a brass four-pounder. The gun-boat was immediately boarded on the quarter, as well as her attendant, and both were carried without sustaining any loss.

On the 14th of May, the 32-gun frigate Pallas, captain lord Cochrane, at 10 h. 30 m. A.M. having arrived nearly within gun-shot of the battery on the Isle of Aix, and shortened sail to her top-sails, the french 40-gun frigate Minèrve, with three brig-corvettes, were seen upon the beam of the Pallas, running down with studding-sails and royals set, to capture the little two-and-thirty. At about 11 h. 15 m., the strangers being within range, the Pallas opened her fire, which soon induced the commodore to shorten sail, and one of the brigs had her main top-sail yard shot away. The Pallas then filled, and hauled on board her tacks to get to windward of her principal opponent, who, assisted by the batteries, kept up a smart fire upon the british frigate. The action continued until 1 P.M., only interrupted by the frequent tacking of the Pallas to avoid the shoals; but having



succeeded in gaining the wind of the *Minèrve*, and after firing two broadsides with effect, the british frigate ran her opponent on board ; and in the collision the *Pallas* had her fore-topmast, jib-boom, fore and main top-sail yards, sprit-sail yard, bumpkin cat-head, chain-plates of the fore-rigging, and even the bower anchor, torn away. At this moment, to make certain of their prize, two other frigates came out to the assistance of the *Minèrve* ; upon which the *Pallas*, being nearly a wreck, bore up towards the offing with the little sail she could set, until taken in tow by the *Kingfisher* brig. The loss on board the british frigate amounted to only one marine killed ; one midshipman and four seamen wounded. The *Minèrve* is reported to have had 7 men killed, and 14 wounded. Lieutenant Drummond was the officer of marines serving on board the *Pallas*.

The 38-gun frigate *Blanche*, captain Thomas Lavie, cruising off the Shetland islands, having received information that the french 40-gun frigate *Guerrière* had been seen alone off the Faro isles, immediately proceeded thither ; and on the 18th of July, at 10 h. 30 m. A.M., the object of her search was discovered from the mast-head, steering towards the island of North Faro. At noon the *Blanche* bore up under all sail, with a light breeze from the south-west, but the *Guerrière*, probably mistaking the british ship for one of her consorts, continued to stand on until 3 P.M., when she bore away, spreading all her canvas. The superior sailing of the *Blanche* enabled her to bring the enemy's ship to action at about 45 minutes past midnight, pouring in two broadsides before any return was made by her opponent. Both ships were then warmly engaged, the *Blanche* still retaining her position in the chase ; and at 1 h. 30 m. A.M. on the 19th, the *Guerrière*, whose mizen topmast had been shot away, was compelled to haul down her colours.

Out of 265 men and boys, the *Blanche* had no further loss than lieutenant Robert Bastin, and 3 marines wounded ; while the *Guerrière*, out of 317, sustained a loss of 20 killed and 30

wounded. Lieutenant John Campbell of the marines was serving on board the *Blanche*.

The 38-gun frigate *Arethusa*, captain C. Brisbane, and 44-gun frigate *Anson*, captain Charles Lydiard, cruising off the Havana on the morning of the 23rd of August, discovered to leeward of them, and within two miles of the Moro castle, the spanish 34-gun frigate *Pomona*; who finding herself closely pursued by the british frigates, and driven to leeward of the fort by the current, bore up and anchored within pistol-shot of a castle mounting 11 long thirty-six pounders, situated about two leagues to the eastward of the Moro, where she was presently reinforced by ten gun-boats from Havana, each mounting a long twenty-four pounder, with 60 men.

About 10 A.M. the british frigates came to an anchor; the *Anson* abreast of the gun-boats, who were formed in line a-head of the frigate, the *Arethusa* on her consort's quarter, and close alongside of the *Pomona*. A warm action immediately commenced, which continued until 10 h. 35 m., when the *Pomona* hauled down her colours, and was taken possession of. All the gun-boats had previously been either blown up, sunk, or driven on shore; but the castle continued the cannonade, until the explosion of part of the battery put an entire stop to the engagement. The *Arethusa* had 2 men killed; captain Brisbane, lieutenant Higman, lieutenant John Fennell of the marines, and 29 men wounded. The *Pomona* had 20 killed and 30 wounded. The officers of marines of the *Arethusa* were first-lieutenant Octavius Scott, and second-lieutenant John Fennell: first-lieutenant George Peebles was on board the *Anson*.

On the 29th of August, in the evening, the 20-gun ship *Bacchante*, captain J. R. Dacres, cruising off Santa Martha on the spanish main, sent her boats, under the command of lieutenant George Norton, assisted by lieutenant John M. Pilcher of the marines and other officers of the ship, to attack some spanish vessels in the harbour. At 1 A.M. on the 30th the boats arrived at the entrance, and immediately dashed for the vessels under

a very heavy fire from them, the batteries, and several field-pieces on the beach. Notwithstanding this formidable opposition, the British succeeded in bringing out one armed brig and two armed feluccas, without sustaining any loss.

On the 25th of September sir Samuel Hood, cruising off Rochefort, with the Windsor Castle 98, Centaur, Achille, Monarch, Revenge, and Mars, of 74 guns each, at 1 A.M., when standing in towards Chasseron light-house, discovered to leeward five french frigates and two brig-corvettes. This squadron, which had escaped from Rochefort on the preceding evening, bound to the West Indies, was immediately chased; and at 5 A.M. the Monarch commenced firing her bow guns at the Armide, who returned the fire with her stern chasers. At 6 A.M. the Indefatigable hauled to the northward, and was pursued by the Mars; while the leeward-most frigate, the *Thémis*, accompanied by the two brigs, bore away to the southward and effected their escape. The three remaining ships of the enemy kept in close order for mutual support; and about 10 A.M. the Monarch became sharply engaged with the two rear-most frigates, so much to the disadvantage of the 74, owing to the heavy swell, which frequently prevented her from opening her lower-deck ports, that in about twenty minutes she was much disabled. The Centaur arriving up at 11 A.M., commenced a heavy fire from her larboard guns upon the *Gloire* and *Armide*, while the Monarch continued engaging the *Minèrve*, and all three frigates kept up a smart fire in return; but being overpowered, the *Armide* surrendered to the Centaur at 11 h. 45 m. A.M., and soon after noon the *Minèrve* struck to the Monarch. By this time the Mars had overtaken and captured the Indefatigable: thus left to herself, the *Gloire* hauled up and made sail to the westward, pursued by the Centaur and Mars, and after a resistance of thirty minutes, surrendered to the latter at 3 P.M. The Centaur was much disabled in her masts, sails, and rigging, and she had 3 men killed, her captain and 3 men wounded. The Monarch lost 4 killed and 15 wounded: making

a total loss on board the british squadron of 9 killed, and 29 wounded.

On the 18th of October, the 36-gun frigate *Caroline*, captain Peter Rainier, having captured a dutch brig of 14 guns, obtained intelligence that the dutch 36-gun frigate *Maria Riggersbergen*, with a 14-gun corvette and an armed ship of 18 guns, were lying in Batavia roads. Being prepared with springs on her cables, the *Caroline* stood in and anchored within pistol-shot of the frigate, and after an action of thirty minutes compelled her to surrender. The British sustained a loss of 3 men killed; lieutenant Zachary Williams of the marines (mortally), and 17 men wounded.

In the autumn of 1805 an expedition, consisting of 5000 troops, commanded by major-general sir David Baird, having assembled at the island of Madeira, accompanied by the 64-gun ships *Diadem*, commodore sir Home Popham, *Raisonné*, and *Belliqueux*, the 50-gun ship *Diomède*, *Leda* and *Narcissus* frigates, sailed thence for the purpose of reducing the Cape of Good Hope. Having touched at St. Salvador for refreshments, they continued their voyage on the 28th of November, and on the evening of the 4th of January, 1806, reached the preconcerted anchorage, to the westward of Robben island.

On the 5th, at 3 A.M., the troops assembled alongside the *Espoir* brig; but the surf ran so high that the landing was deemed impracticable, and they returned to their ships. The commodore and sir David Baird then proceeded to reconnoitre the coast, which they found extremely dangerous; but the probability that some of the enemy's squadrons might arrive with reinforcements, rendered it highly important that the disembarkation should take place as soon as possible: it was therefore resolved to land the troops in Saldanha bay. With this object in view, the transports containing the 38th regiment, the cavalry, and a proportion of artillery, under the orders of major-general Beresford, and escorted by the *Diomède*, sailed for that destination.

Soon afterwards the westerly wind abated, and on the morning of the 6th, the surf having subsided, preparations were made for landing the remainder of the troops at the spot originally fixed upon. The ships were then placed in positions to cover the landing, and a transport-brig of light draught of water was run on the beach as a breakwater. Owing to these arrangements, and the absence of any obstruction on the part of the enemy, the greater part of the troops effected their landing in the course of the afternoon; but unfortunately, thirty-five men of the 93rd regiment were drowned, occasioned by the upsetting of a boat. The surf increasing considerably towards the evening, the remainder of the troops were not landed until the morning of the 7th. The marines of the squadron, amounting to about 400 men, were landed lower down, between the army and the town, and formed on the enemy's flank. The commodore, with the *Leda* and a division of transports containing the battering train, then proceeded to the head of Blawberg bay, and by firing over the bank towards the Salt-pans, drove the enemy from the eligible position he had taken. On the morning of the 8th the army, formed into two brigades, with two howitzers and six field-pieces, moved off towards the road that leads to Cape Town; and having ascended the summit of the Blue mountain and dislodged a part of the enemy's light troops, discovered the main body of the Dutch, amounting to about 5000 men, chiefly cavalry, with twenty-three pieces of cannon, and commanded by lieutenant-general Janssens. After an interchange of some firing, the British moved forward with the bayonet, and routed their opponents in every direction. The dutch loss is represented to have amounted to 700 men in killed and wounded; while the loss on the part of the British was no more than 15 killed, 189 wounded, and 8 missing.

On the 9th the troops reached Salt River, where general Baird proposed encamping to await the arrival of the battering train; but a flag of truce arrived from the officer commanding the town with proposals to capitulate, and the british troops,

as agreed upon, occupied Fort Knocke. On the 10th articles of capitulation were respectively signed; and on the 12th the British took possession of Cape Town and its dependencies, on the several batteries of which were mounted 113 pieces of brass, and 343 pieces of iron ordnance. General Janssens, who after the battle of the 8th had retired to the pass of Holland's Kloof, leading to the district of Zwellendam, was at length induced to surrender, and thus the conquest of the colony was completed. By the terms agreed upon, the dutch general and his army were not to be considered as prisoners of war, but were to be conveyed to Holland at the expense of the British.

On the 4th of March, 1806, the french 40-gun frigate *Volontaire*, deceived by the dutch colours on the forts and shipping, was decoyed into Table Bay, and was captured by the british squadron, to the great joy of 217 men of the Queen's and 54th regiments, who were on board as prisoners. Learning from various sources that the inhabitants of Monte Video and Buenos Ayres were so oppressed by their government that they would offer no resistance to a british army, sir Home Popham, with the concurrence of sir David Baird, undertook an expedition against those places; and on the 14th of April the *Diadem*, *Raisnable*, *Diomède*, *Leda*, and *Narcissus*, *Encounter* gun-brig, with five transports, having on board the 71st regiment, a small detachment of artillery, and a few dismounted dragoons, under the command of major-general Beresford, sailed from Table Bay. On the 22nd they arrived at St. Helena, where they received on board a detachment of the St. Helena regiment, with artillery, amounting to 286 officers and men, making the whole force embarked about 1200 men. The expedition left St. Helena on the 2nd of May, and on the 22nd sir Home, being anxious to obtain the earliest local information, sailed for Rio de la Plata in the *Narcissus*, leaving the squadron in charge of captain Josias Rowley, of the *Raisnable*. On the

8th of June the *Narcissus* anchored near the island of Flores, and on the 13th was joined by the *Raisable* and squadron.

It being determined to make the first attempt upon Buenos Ayres, the marine battalion, consisting of 340 men and the following officers, major Alexander McKenzie, major Gillespie, captain Ballinghall, lieutenants Swale, Pilcher, Pollard, Sandell, Charles Forbes, and Fernyhough, and the brigade of seamen of 100 men under captain King, were placed on board the *Narcissus* and *Encounter*. On the 16th these vessels, with the transports, moved up the river, while the *Diadem* blockaded Monte Video; and the *Raisable* with the *Diomède*, by way of demonstration, cruised near Maldonado and other assailable points on the coast. Owing to the foggy state of the weather and intricacy of the navigation, it was not until the 25th that the *Narcissus* and transports reached Point Quelme, about twelve miles from Buenos Ayres, and not more than ninety from the spot they had quitted nine days before.

The army landed without opposition from the enemy near the village of Reduction, about six miles below the town, where the water was so shallow, that the boats grounded when half a mile from the beach. The troops, after wading to the shore, advanced a short distance, and then formed in line, having a morass in front, and their rear protected by the companies of the St. Helena regiment. Here they bivouacked for the night, while the enemy occupied the rising ground on the opposite side of the morass, with the village of Reduction on their right, and their advanced picquets within a mile of our position. At day-break the British were under arms, preparing to attack the enemy, who were also on the alert, and making a considerable display of cavalry. The British line now advanced, and although their artillery, from getting entangled in the swamp, was left in the rear, the troops gallantly moved forward under a heavy fire of grape and canister, routed the enemy and captured three guns, which were immediately turned upon the

Spaniards as they fled towards the river Chuelo. After destroying the bridge, the spanish army took up a position on the bank of the river, out of gun-shot.

On the morning of the 27th the British crossed the Chuelo, and having advanced to within a mile and a half of the capital, an officer arrived from the spanish authorities offering to capitulate, provided the inhabitants were protected and their property respected. Those terms having been acceded to, the british troops immediately entered the city and took possession of the castle, the viceroy and his army having previously fled to Cordova; and on the 2nd of July the capitulation was signed upon terms highly favourable to the inhabitants.

The amount of the garrison did not exceed 1500 men, and this limited force was so inadequate to the extent they had to defend, that the Spaniards soon began to evince a spirit of resistance, frequently attacking our men on picquet, and many were cut off by the insidious enemy. About six weeks after Buenos Ayres had submitted, the warlike preparations of the inhabitants became very apparent, and on the 31st of July general Beresford apprized sir Home Popham that an insurrection was forming in the city; at the same time a force of 1200 men was organizing on the Monte Video side of the river, under M. Liniers, a french colonel in the spanish service. On the 4th of August that officer, taking advantage of a fog, was enabled to elude the vigilance of the british gun-boats, and the spanish troops landed at Conchas, about fifteen miles above Buenos Ayres.

A british force, consisting of 450 men of the 71st regiment and 50 marines, with 2 pieces of artillery, were detached at 2 A.M. to attack them; and after a march of five hours they discovered the enemy drawn up in order of battle: instantly moving forward, the British dispersed the spanish force, which, with the militia that had assembled, amounted to above 2000 men. After capturing some guns, the detachment returned to Buenos Ayres the same afternoon, having marched thirty miles in fourteen

hours. Colonel Liniers was not long in re-assembling his army with increased numbers, and on the 10th of August he sent in a flag of truce with a summons to the british general to surrender the citadel : this was peremptorily refused, and immediate preparation made for a resolute defence. The firing soon commenced, but the enemy's attacks were principally from the tops of houses, or by hidden parties falling on the picquets. On the 12th the spanish force had so greatly increased that it was reported to exceed 10,000 men, comprised principally of militia. Thus hemmed in, with their ammunition exhausted, the British beat a parley ; and the terms proposed having been accepted, the troops marched out with the honours of war to the town-hall, where they laid down their arms, and were confined as prisoners until ships could be prepared to convey them to England, the officers retaining their swords. The loss sustained by the British amounted to 48 killed, 107 wounded, and 10 missing. In consequence of information reaching the spanish governor that a british force was on its way to the river Plata, the prisoners were removed from Buenos Ayres to the interior, and on the 11th of October the remainder of the army quitted the city ; but it was not until the 4th of May, 1807, that they reached their place of destination in the valley at the foot of the Condor mountains, where they continued until the unsuccessful attack of general Whitelocke on Buenos Ayres in July 1807.

After the failure of the expedition to Buenos Ayres, or rather the capitulation of the troops under major-general Beresford, commodore sir Home Popham remained at anchor blockading the port, until, by the arrival of reinforcements on the 5th and 12th of October, he was enabled to recommence offensive operations. After making an attempt upon Monte Video, and finding the water too shallow to admit of approaching sufficiently near with the ships to batter the walls with effect, the commodore on the 29th anchored in the harbour of Maldonado, which is formed by the island of Goretti, defended by a battery of 20 twenty-four pounders. The troops, including seamen and ma-

rines, amounting to about 1000 men, under brigadier-general Backhouse, were disembarked without opposition; and after a slight skirmish obtained possession of the village of Maldonado, as they did of Goretti on the following day. Thus matters rested until the arrival of rear-admiral Stirling in the Ardent 64, with a small convoy, on the 5th of January, 1807, when brigadier-general sir Samuel Achmuty also arrived to take command of the troops. Maldonado was evacuated on the 13th, and a small garrison only was left in Goretti.

An attack on Monte Video was now determined on, and on the 16th the following ships assembled off the island of Flores: Diadem, Raisonable, Ardent, and Lancaster of 64 guns; Leda, Unicorn, and Medusa frigates, besides sloops and smaller vessels. A landing was effected in a small bay a little to the westward of the Caretas rocks, about eight miles to the eastward of the town; the intricacy of the navigation and the strong breeze then blowing, rendered it very difficult for the large ships to approach sufficiently near the shore, but the frigate stood close in, and commanded the beach very effectually.

On the 19th the army, including about 800 seamen and marines under the orders of captain Ross Donnelly, moved forward; and in the evening the ships of war and transports dropped up to Chico bay, near to which, and about two miles from the town, the troops encamped, after having had a slight skirmish with the enemy. The water was so shallow in front of Monte Video, that the ships could lend no effectual co-operation in the siege beyond landing a part of their men, guns, and stores, and cutting off the communication between Colonna and Buenos Ayres. On the 25th the breaching batteries opened upon Monte Video, and the lighter vessels of the squadron kept up a distant fire upon the fortifications.

The siege continued without much appearance of success until the 2nd of February, when a breach was reported practicable. In the evening a summons was sent to the governor; and on the morning of the 3rd, before day, the place was gal-

lantly stormed, and the town and citadel carried. The loss sustained by the army, from its landing to the termination of the siege, amounted to 192 killed, 421 wounded, and 8 missing. Of the navy and marines on shore only 6 were killed, 28 wounded, and 4 missing.

In the early part of May, a reinforcement of 5000 troops arrived under brigadier-general Crawford, who superseded sir Samuel Achmuty; and on the 15th of June lieutenant-general Whitelocke arrived in the 64-gun ship Polyphemus, bearing the flag of rear-admiral George Murray, and these officers took command of the respective forces. An attempt upon Buenos Ayres was the immediate object of the expedition, and on the 28th of June a landing was effected within thirty miles of the place without opposition. On the 5th of July an attack was made on the town, and the army, under the command of brigadier-general Crawford being overwhelmed by numbers, were compelled to surrender with a loss of 2,500 men in killed, wounded, and prisoners. On the 6th general Liniers, commanding the spanish army in Buenos Ayres, offered to deliver up all the prisoners if the attack were discontinued, and the British consented to evacuate the river Plata in two months. General Whitelocke immediately acceded to these terms, and thus terminated this disastrous campaign, which had excited the attention and expectations of the British public to an unusual degree.

On the 29th of November, 1806, vice-admiral Dacres, commander-in-chief on the Jamaica station, despatched captain Charles Brisbane of the *Arethusa*, accompanied by the *Latona* 38 guns, captain James A. Wood, and the *Anson* 34 guns, captain Charles Lydiard, to reconnoitre the island of Curaçoa, and ascertain how far the inhabitants were disposed to ally themselves to Great Britain. Owing to adverse winds and currents, it was not until the 22nd of December, in the evening, that the squadron reached the west-end of Aruba island, situated about a degree to the westward of Curaçoa: here they were joined by the 38-gun frigate *Fisgard*, captain William Bolton.

The necessary preparations were made for a vigorous attack upon the island : each ship having her allotted station, the crews were divided into storming parties, commanded by their respective officers, and led by their captains, leaving on board merely sufficient hands to work the ship. On the 24th the four frigates weighed and made sail, intending to strike the blow at daybreak on new year's day, which was considered a favourable moment, as the previous eve is generally spent by the Dutch in intemperate festivity.

1807.

On the 1st of January, at 1 A. M., the frigates hove to when near the high land of St. Barbary's, on the east-end of Curaçoa ; and having hoisted out the boats, and made the necessary arrangements for an immediate attack by storm, bore away for the mouth of the harbour at 5 A. M., the *Arethusa* leading, followed in close order by the *Latona*, *Anson*, and *Fisgard*. The entrance is only 50 fathoms wide, and is defended by regular fortifications ; the principal of which, Fort Amsterdam, standing on the right-hand side, mounts 60 pieces of cannon in two tiers. Athwart the harbour, (which nowhere exceeds a quarter of a mile in width,) were the dutch 36-gun frigate *Halstaar*, and 20-gun ship *Surinam*, besides two large armed schooners. On Middleburg height there was a chain of forts ; and Fort République, deemed almost impregnable, situated upon a high hill at the bottom of the harbour, within half gun-shot distance, enfiladed the whole.

At daylight the *Arethusa*, with a flag of truce at the fore, entered the port ; but the dutch forts and shipping, taking no notice of the flag, opened a smart although ineffective fire. The wind suddenly shifting to the north, checked the further progress of the *Arethusa* ; but in a few minutes it veered back to north-east, thereby enabling all the frigates, except the *Fisgard*, aground on the west side, to lay up along the harbour ; and the three remaining ships anchored in positions for cannonading the defences of the enemy.

The *Arethusa* was now lying with her jib-boom over the wall of the town, when captain Brisbane sent the following summons to the governor:—"The british squadron are here to protect, and not to conquer you; but to preserve to you your lives, liberty, and property. If a shot be fired at any one of my squadron after this summons, I shall immediately storm your batteries: you have five minutes to accede to this determination." No notice being taken of this summons, the flag of truce was hauled down, and at 6 h. 15 m. A. M. the british squadron commenced the action. After the discharge of the third broadside, captain Brisbane, at the head of the boarders, carried the dutch frigate, and the *Latona* immediately warped alongside and took possession. In the mean time captain Lydiard, with a division of men from the *Anson*, had boarded and secured the corvette.

Captains Brisbane and Lydiard then pulled straight for the shore, and landing together, proceeded at 7 h. 30 m. A. M. to storm Fort Amsterdam. The vigour of the assault was irresistible: whilst some were employed in forcing open the sea-gate, others escalated the walls, and although the fort was garrisoned by 275 regular troops, it was carried in about ten minutes; and shortly afterwards the citadel and some minor forts, as well as the town, were in the possession of the British. On the return of captains Brisbane and Lydiard to their respective ships, a fire was opened upon Fort *République*, and 300 seamen and marines were landed to attack it in the rear; but without waiting for such encounter the fort surrendered, and by noon the whole island of *Curaçoa* had capitulated to the british arms.

This unparalleled achievement was accomplished with no greater loss to the British than 3 seamen killed, and 14 wounded. The loss on the part of the Dutch was much more severe: the *Halstaar* had her captain and 2 men killed, and 3 wounded; the *Surinam* 1 killed, her commander (dangerously) and 3 wounded; and the schooner *Flying Fish*, one killed and one wounded. Total,—5 killed, and 8 wounded; whilst the killed and wounded on shore amounted to about 200 men.

Captain Brisbane, the planner and leader of this gallant enterprise, received the honour of knighthood ; medals were conferred on the four captains ; the senior lieutenants of the *Arethusa* and *Anson* were made commanders, and lieutenant George Peebles was promoted to the brevet-rank of captain.

The officers of marines serving on board the squadron were as follows :—

Arethusa ; first-lieutenant Octavius Scott, second-lieutenant John Fennell.

Latona ; first-lieutenant John Hay, second-lieutenant — Henderson.

Anson ; first-lieutenant George Peebles.

Fisgard ; first-lieutenant A. Watts, second-lieutenant Hugh Peregrine.

On the 21st of January, at day-break, the 32-gun frigate *Galatea*, captain George Sayer, when cruising off the *Caraccas*, on the spanish main, discovered and chased the french 16-gun brig *Lynx* ; but it falling calm, the boats of the frigate under lieutenant William Coombe, containing 5 officers, 50 seamen, and 20 marines, were sent to attack her. It was not until 8 h. 30 m. P. M. that the boats, formed in two lines, arrived within hail of the brig ; instantly cheering they dashed alongside, but met with such determined opposition, that they were compelled to sheer off. A second attempt was equally unsuccessful ; but the third attack enabled the gallant assailants, after a severe struggle, to obtain possession of their hard-earned prize. Lieutenant Henry Walker, 5 seamen, and 3 marines were killed ; lieutenant Coombe, 2 midshipmen, 15 seamen, and 4 marines wounded. Total,—9 killed, and 22 wounded.

The *Lynx*, out of a crew of 161 men, had 14 killed and 20 wounded.

CHAPTER II.

FROM THE YEAR 1807 TO 1809.

THE troops of Napoléon continued achieving fresh victories over the armies of Prussia and Russia, until these powers were brought to terms by the double treaty of Tilsit; and in the early part of this year the fortified city of Dantzic, seated on the western branch of the Vistula near its entrance into the Baltic, became the scene of active operations, and a british naval force co-operated with the garrison in their endeavours to repel the invaders. The bombardment of the city commenced on the 24th of April, and on the 29th the French were repulsed in an attempt to carry it by storm.

On the 21st of May the garrison capitulated, being reduced from 16,000 to 9000 men. The battle of Friedland was fought on the 14th of June; an armistice between Russia and France was agreed upon on the 25th at Tilsit, and on the 7th and 9th of July treaties were concluded between France, Russia, and Prussia. In the mean time the french emperor had been not inattentive to his naval force; the united ports of France and Spain contained forty-five ships of the line ready for sea, exclusive of three sail of the line in the West Indies and America. Buonaparte also relied upon having nine portuguese sail of the line in the Tagus, and five russian in the Mediterranean, at his disposal. While these sixty-two sail of the line required nearly an equal number of british ships on the coast, a considerable force occupied their attention in the northern seas. In the port of Flushing and at Antwerp were eleven new ships of the line, and others in a forward state on the stocks, and three Dutch

were lying in the Texel: making a total of fourteen in that quarter.

Besides the grand army in the neighbourhood of Tilsit, Napoléon had 70,000 men on the borders of Swedish Pomerania, and he meditated sending another army to occupy the danish monarch's newly-acquired territory of Holstein; and by that means possess himself of eleven sail of the line belonging to Sweden, and sixteen danish ships of the same force. It was also believed that one of the secret articles of the treaty of Tilsit placed at the conqueror's temporary disposal nineteen new ships, which the emperor of Russia had, nearly ready for sea, at Cronstadt and Revel. Admitting the plan to have been realized, to one-half the extent of the french emperor's contemplation, thirty ships of the line and a proportionate number of transports would have conveyed a powerful army to Ireland; and Napoléon not only possessed a military force ready to act, but he would soon have leisure personally to direct its energies towards the fulfilment of his oft-repeated threat,—the humiliation of the most constant, the most formidable, and the most dreaded of his enemies. In this state of things, England was naturally attentive to the naval movements in the north; and relying upon the firmness and continued friendship of the king of Sweden, she sent some troops to his assistance; but by the time the first division had landed, the Swedish monarch was compelled to retire with the remnant of his army to the fortress of Stralsund.

It was during the conference of the emperors on the Niemen, preparatory to the peace at Tilsit, that England became apprized of the confederacy that was forming against her in the north; and it was about that time she learnt, that the weakness of Denmark was a second time to operate as an excuse for favouring the views of France, by shutting up the Sound against the commerce and navigation of England, and lending the Copenhagen fleet to assist in the attempt to subjugate a power, whose friendship it was the interest both of Denmark and Russia to have cultivated. With these considerations Great

Britain on the 19th of July, came to the determination to demand of Denmark the temporary possession of her fleet, under a solemn promise to restore it at the conclusion of a general peace; and in case of refusal to take it by force of arms. As it was now late in the season, the utmost despatch was required in preparing the expedition before the winter closed the navigation of the Baltic; and on the 26th of July admiral J. Gambier, with the following seventeen sail of the line, twenty-one frigates and smaller vessels, set sail from Yarmouth roads: 98-gun ship, Prince of Wales; 74-gun ships, *Pompée*, *Centaur*, *Ganges*, *Spencer*, *Vanguard*, *Maida*, *Brunswick*, *Resolution*, *Hercule*, *Orion*, *Alfred*, *Goliath*, and *Captain*; 64-gun ships, *Ruby*, *Dictator*, and *Nassau*. On the evening of the 1st of August, when off the Wingo beacon, at the entrance of Gottenburg, commodore sir R. G. Keats, with the *Ganges*, *Vanguard*, *Orion*, and *Nassau*, three frigates and ten brigs, parted company and steered for the passage of the Great Belt, in order to cut off supplies of danish troops that might attempt to cross from Holstein to Zealand. The fleet entered the Sound on the 3rd, and anchored in the road of Elsineur. On the 5th the *Superb* joined the fleet, and on the following morning proceeded after the *Vanguard* and squadron, to receive the broad pendant of sir Richard Keats.

Between the 7th and 12th, the *Inflexible*, *Minotaur*, *Valiant*, *Mars*, and *Defence*, 74 guns, *Leyden* 64, and several frigates, including the *Africaine* with lieutenant-general lord Cathcart to command the land forces, arrived; and by the time the transports from Rugen, under the 64-gun ship *Agamemnon*, had joined from England, the expedition consisted of twenty-five ships of the line, with upwards of forty frigates and smaller vessels; making a total of sixty-five vessels of war, exclusive of 377 transports, conveying about 27,000 troops, principally Germans in english pay. On the 8th the british plenipotentiary at the court of Denmark communicated the proposal of his government to the Crown Prince; upon which the latter gave direc-

tions for putting the city of Copenhagen in the best possible state of defence, and immediately repaired thither from Kiel, in Holstein. On the 12th his danish Majesty quitted Copenhagen for Colding, in Jutland, leaving the defence of the city to the care of major-general Peiman, whose force consisted of 5510 men, including 2000 militia: these were exclusive of sailors, and of 3600 armed citizens, so that their whole armed forces amounted probably to 12,000 men; whilst the main danish army, of more than double that amount, was encamped in Holstein.

The sea defence of the port consisted of the Trekronen pile-battery in a north-east by north direction from the entrance of the harbour, mounting 68 heavy guns besides mortars; a pile-battery in advance of the citadel, mounting 36 guns and nine mortars; the citadel itself, mounting 20, and three mortars; the holm or arsenal battery of 50, and 12 mortars: total 174 guns, and 25 mortars; the guns long thirty-six and twenty-four pounders, and the mortars of the largest calibre. There were also around the Trekronen, and in front of the harbour, a block-ship of 64, a prame of 22, three of 20 guns (twenty-four pounders), two floating batteries, and above twenty-five gun-boats. The fleet in the arsenal consisted of sixteen sail of the line and twenty-one frigates, but not in a serviceable state; and there were three 74-gun ships on the stocks, and three ships of the line in ports of Norway.

On the night of the 12th, the 32-gun frigate Frederickscoarn, at anchor in Elsineur road, slipped her cable and steered for Norway; and on the 13th the Defence 74, with the 22-gun ship Comus, captain Edmund Heywood, made sail into the Cattegat for the purpose of capturing the danish frigate. The Comus, from her superior sailing in the prevailing light wind, came up with the object of her pursuit about midnight on the 14th, at which time the Defence was more than thirteen miles astern. The danish captain refusing to bring to, the Comus fired a musket athwart her stern; and instantly receiving a shot from

one of the latter's stern chasers, the british frigate bore up and commenced the action within pistol-shot. After engaging for about forty-five minutes, the *Dane*, from the disabled state of her rigging and sails, fell on board her opponent: a party of seamen and marines, headed by two lieutenants, quickly jumped on board the *Frederickscoarn*, and carried her without further resistance. The *Comus*, out of her 145 men and boys, had but one man wounded; but the danish frigate, out of a complement of 226, had 12 killed and 20 wounded.

Early on the 13th the british fleet and transports weighed, and by 5 P.M. had worked up to the bay of Wedbeck, about midway between *Elsineur* and *Copenhagen*. Here the admiral with the fleet came to an anchor, while rear-admiral *Essington* with a small squadron proceeded higher up the Sound, in order to make a diversion; and on the morning of the 16th a part of the troops landed at *Wedbeck* without opposition. A proclamation, explanatory of the object of the expedition having been addressed to the Danes by the two commanders-in-chief, the fleet again weighed, and proceeded towards *Copenhagen*. On the same day, the danish king at *Gluckstadt*, and his general in the capital, issued a proclamation, directing all english vessels and property to be seized and detained.

On the 17th, the danish gun-boats stationed off the harbour set fire to an english bark laden with timber; they also attacked with round and grape the picquets on the left of the british army; but after receiving the fire of some british bombs and gun-brigs, they retired into the harbour. In consequence of the attack made upon the english merchant-vessel, admiral *Gambier* issued orders to the cruisers to detain all danish ships; and on the same evening, with sixteen sail of the line, anchored in *Copenhagen road*. On the 21st the circumvallation of *Zealand* by the british ships being complete, the admiral declared the island to be in a state of close blockade. A battery of 13 twenty-four pounders had been erected at *Svane Moelle* to protect the left of the army from the annoyance of the danish gun-

boats; and the last division of the troops, lord Rosslyn's corps from Stralsund, disembarked in the north part of Keoge bay.

Between the 22nd and the 1st of September there were frequent sharp skirmishes between the danish prames and gun-boats, and the british sloops and bombs; in which the batteries on both sides took part, and occasioned a severe loss of killed and wounded. In order to prevent reinforcements being sent from Stralsund to Zealand, that port was declared to be in a state of blockade, and commodore Keats was directed to maintain it. The numerous gun and mortar batteries around the city being nearly completed by the army, (48 mortars and howitzers, and 20 twenty-four pounders were mounted,) the two british commanders-in-chief on the 12th of September summoned general Peiman to surrender the danish fleet; pledging the faith of their government that the ships should be held merely as a deposit, and be restored at the conclusion of a general peace. A negative was returned to this message, but the danish general requested time to communicate with his sovereign upon the subject. His Majesty having declined the proposal, all the british batteries and bomb-vessels opened at 7 h. 30 m. p.m. on the 2nd, and very soon set the city on fire; the bombardment continued until 8 A.M. on the 3rd, and being resumed in the evening, lasted all the night. At 7 P.M. on the 4th the cannonade was renewed with great fury, and in a short time the timber-yard, extending a quarter of a mile in length, was set on fire by red-hot shot, and the steeple of the metropolitan church was soon observed to be in flames.

The conflagration, as well as the bombardment, continued until the evening of the 5th, when major-general Peiman sent out a flag of truce, requesting an armistice of twenty-four hours to prepare terms of capitulation. In reply, lord Cathcart refused to accede to any terms short of the surrender of the danish fleet.

The governor having consented that the surrender of the fleet should be the basis of the negotiation, major-general sir Arthur

Wellesley, sir Home Popham, and lieutenant-colonel George Murray, deputy quarter-master general, were appointed to settle the remaining terms of convention. On the 6th the articles were drawn up, and on the morning of the 7th, signed and ratified. The British were to be put in possession of the citadel, and of the ships of war with their stores; these were to be removed within six weeks from the date of the capitulation, when the citadel was to be relinquished, and they were at that period to quit the island of Zealand: all hostilities were in the mean time to cease, and all property and prisoners taken on either side to be restored.

During the siege several skirmishes, and one or two sorties, had taken place, in which the army sustained a loss of 4 officers and 38 men killed, 6 officers and 139 wounded, and 24 missing; making, with the loss incurred afloat, a total loss to the British of 56 killed, 179 wounded, and 25 missing. After destroying the block-ships, all kinds of stores from the arsenal, embarking the timbers of two of the ships on the stocks, and rendering the third useless, the danish fleet was moved to the road, consisting of three ships of 80 guns, fourteen of 74, one of 64, two of 40, six of 46, and two 32-gun frigates, besides several smaller vessels and 25 gun-boats.

On the 20th of October the last division of the army re-embarked, and on the morning of the 21st the fleet, with the prizes and transports, sailed from Copenhagen road in three divisions. In going down the Sound, the danish 80-gun ship *Neptunos*, having grounded on a sand-bank near to the isle of Huen, was destroyed; and on entering the Cattegat the weather became boisterous, which led to the destruction of all the danish gun-boats but three: no further casualty occurred, and the fleet reached Yarmouth and the Downs in safety at the end of the month.

Although this enterprise had been conducted with great zeal and ability, it was not an affair that added much glory to the british arms. The attacking force was greatly superior, and

except the skirmishes with the gun-boats and batteries, they had no contest to maintain; and during the bombardment, all the loss fell upon the besieged, for not a man was hurt on the side of the British during the three nights and one day that the firing lasted.

The successful result of the expedition, nevertheless, gained the same honorary rewards for the army and navy usually bestowed for the most brilliant victory, and they also obtained the thanks of both houses of Parliament. Admiral Gambier was raised to the peerage, lord Cathcart made an english peer, vice-admiral Stanhope, lieutenant-general Burrard, and major-general Bloomfield created baronets, and captain R. Collier, the bearer of the despatches, received the honour of knighthood. The british public was for a long time divided in opinion on the merits of the expedition, morally and politically considered: at length the necessity of the measure became generally admitted, and both branches of the legislature voted their approbation of the conduct of ministers on the occasion.

The probability of a rupture between Turkey and Russia, through the influence of France, induced the british government to send a squadron to reconnoitre the situation of the forts of the Dardanelles and the fortifications adjacent, in case circumstances should call for an attack upon them by a british force. Rear-admiral sir Thomas Louis in the *Canopus*, with the *Thunderer* and *Standard*, anchored off the island of Tenedos on the 21st of December, 1806, and having taken on board pilots, steered towards the strait. Leaving the *Thunderer* and *Standard* in Azire bay, the rear-admiral in the *Canopus* proceeded to Constantinople, and at 5 P.M. on the 28th anchored off Seraglio point, in company with the *Endymion* frigate. The Turks, intimidated by the firmness of the russian ambassador, had acceded to all his demands; and a powerful russian army having entered Moldavia, the aspect of affairs became so materially changed, that on the 25th of December the ambassador embarked on board the *Canopus*. On the 28th, the rear-admi-

ral weighed and steered for the Dardanelles, leaving the Endymion to attend upon Mr. Arbuthnot, the british ambassador. On the 2nd of January, 1807, the Canopus joined the squadron in Azire bay, and on the 4th the russian ambassador proceeded in the Active to Malta. The Endymion, having embarked Mr. Arbuthnot and the whole of the british merchants, quitted Constantinople, and on the 31st the frigate arrived in Azire bay: the squadron weighed on the following morning, and soon afterwards anchored off Tenedos.

Anticipating a rupture of the negotiations with the Sublime Porte, the Admiralty directed lord Collingwood to detach a force to the Dardanelles; and on the 15th of January sir John Thomas Duckworth was instructed to proceed in the Royal George to the straits of Constantinople, and to bombard the city in case of a refusal to deliver up the turkish fleet, (consisting of twelve ships of the line and nine frigates,) with the stores necessary for its equipment; but the vice-admiral was not at liberty to commence hostilities without the approval of the british ambassador. Sir John, after touching at Gibraltar, arrived at Malta on the 30th of January, and sailing thence for the Archipelago on the 4th of February, accompanied by the Windsor Castle, Repulse, Ajax, and Pompée, anchored off the island of Tenedos on the 10th, in company with the ships already mentioned, and the Lucifer and Meteor bombs. It was now ascertained that the batteries of the Dardanelles were in a dilapidated state, the guns badly mounted and weakly manned; and that the fleet, with the exception of a 64-gun ship and four frigates near Pesquies point, was not equipped, although in a preparing state. On the 11th, at 11 A.M., the squadron weighed; but as the wind was not fair for passing up the channel, the ships came to an anchor off Cape Janizary.

On the 14th, at 9 P.M., the Ajax was discovered to be on fire in the after-cockpit; the flames spread so rapidly that it became impossible to hoist out the boats, and bursting up the main hatchway, divided the fore from the after-part of the ship.

It was with the greatest difficulty that captain Blackwood and about 381 of the officers and crew effected their escape, chiefly by jumping overboard from the bowsprit, or dropping into the few boats that were enabled to approach in time to be useful. The Ajax burnt during the whole night, and the wind blowing fresh from the north-east, she drifted on the island of Tenedos, where, at 5 A.M. on the 15th, she blew up with an awful explosion, and about 250 souls perished.

The wind having shifted to south-south-west, on the 19th the squadron weighed, and steered for the entrance of the Dardanelles, formed thus—

Canopus, 80 guns, rear-admiral sir T. Louis, captain G. T. Shortland, 3 killed, 12 wounded. Captain of marines R. Kent, second-lieutenants G. H. Coryton, Alexander Cameron.

Repulse, 74 guns, captain the hon. A. K. Legge, 3 wounded. Captain of marines M. Wybourn, lieutenants Edward Marshall and Henry Doswell.

Royal George, 100 guns, vice-admiral sir J. T. Duckworth, captain R. D. Dunn, 3 killed, 29 wounded. Captain Jackson, lieutenants Fleming, Wright, and Campbell of the marines.

Windsor Castle, 98 guns, captain Charles Boyles, 7 wounded. Captain of marines G. Dunsmuire, lieutenants Wills and Bennett.

Standard, 64 guns, captain Thomas Harvey. Captain of marines Edward Nicolls, lieutenants W. Fynmore and John Love.

Pompée, 74 guns, rear-admiral sir S. Smith, captain Richard Dacres. Captain of marines Matthew Horlock, lieutenants Wm. Laurie, Mark Oates.

Thunderer, 74 guns, captain John Talbot. Captain of marines Gilbert Elliott, lieutenants Hockley and John Lister.

Endymion, 40 guns, captain Thomas B. Capel. Lieutenants of marines John M'Callum and — Goode.

Active, 38 guns, captain R. H. Moubray. Lieutenants of marines David Holt and John Morrison.

Total—6 men killed, and 51 wounded.

The Meteor bomb was in tow of the Standard, and the Lucifer of the Thunderer. Lieutenant G. E. Balchild was in the former, and lieutenant John Lawrence in the Lucifer.

About 8 A.M., the Canopus having arrived abreast of the outer castles, both opened their fire upon her and the ships as they successively passed; but at the suggestion of Mr. Arbuthnot no return was made, except some shells thrown by the bombs. At 9 h. 30 m. A.M. the leading ship of the squadron arrived abreast of the inner castle, which opened a fire within point-blank range, and the ships in succession returned the cannonade with some effect. The damage sustained by the squadron was very trifling, not a mast or yard shot away; and the casualties, as already enumerated, amounted to a total of 6 killed and 51 wounded.

A little above the castle of Abydos, and stretching on towards Point Pesquies on the asiatic side, the turkish squadron was lying at anchor, consisting of one 64-gun ship with a rear-admiral's flag, a 40-gun frigate with the flag of the capitán-pacha, two frigates of 36 and one of 32 guns, four corvettes from 10 to 20 guns each, two brigs, and two gun-boats. As the british van arrived abreast of the turkish ships, they opened their fire, which was returned by the Canopus, Repulse, Royal George, and Windsor Castle; and these ships then stood on to an anchorage about three miles above the point, while sir Sidney Smith, according to a previous arrangement, with the Pompée, Thunderer, Standard, and frigates, anchored within musket-shot of the turkish squadron, as well as of a redoubt on the point mounting 31 heavy guns.

After engaging for about thirty minutes, the 64 ran on shore on the asiatic side at 10 A.M.; and in a few minutes the rest of the ships, with the exception of one frigate, a corvette, and a gun-boat, did the same. The two latter were captured, but the frigate having cut her cable ran aground, and was destroyed by the boats of the Active, under lieutenant G. W. Willes.

As the redoubt continued its fire, and the turkish ships on

shore under it kept their colours flying, while part of their crews and a considerable body of armed men appeared on the beach and on the hills, the British were under the necessity of continuing the cannonade. A few shells thrown from the *Pompée* among the Turks, soon dispersed them; and lieutenant Mark Oates, with the marines of that ship, landed and brought off the green standard: meanwhile the boats of the *Thunderer* and *Standard* boarded and destroyed the turkish frigates on the asiatic side; and captain Edward Nicolls of the marines, to whom the duty of burning the 40-gun frigate had been assigned, struck and carried off the flag of the capitan-pacha. Profiting by the consternation of the Turks from the explosions on all sides of them, captain Nicolls, accompanied by lieutenant William Fynmore, entered the redoubt, which the Turks had quitted on their approach. He then set fire to the gabions and spiked the guns; but the explosion of the line-of-battle ship being momentarily expected, the party were compelled to retire from the shore before they had destroyed the redoubt. Lieutenants David Holt and William Laurie of the marines assisted, in the boats of the *Repulse* and *Pompée*, in effecting the destruction of the turkish ships.

The loss sustained by the British in their engagement with the enemy's squadron, and with the redoubt, amounted to 4 killed and 26 wounded, making, with the previous loss, 10 killed and 77 wounded.

At 5 P.M., having accomplished the destruction of the turkish force, sir Sidney Smith left the *Active* to complete the demolition of the battery, and with the remainder of his division got under way at the same time as the vice-admiral, who with the whole squadron proceeded towards Constantinople. Carrying but little sail during the night, and the wind having considerably lessened, they did not cast anchor off the Prince's islands until 10 P.M. on the 20th.

On the 21st, at day-break, there was a moderate breeze from the south-east, and every one anxiously looked for the signal

to weigh, expecting the ships would take a position to bombard the city; but the *Endymion* alone made sail, with the ambassador's despatches, and at 11 h. 3 m. A.M. she anchored within four miles of the town. The flag of truce not being permitted to land, a succession of correspondence took place, accompanied by threats from the vice-admiral; nevertheless, he continued at the same anchorage. On the 27th, in the morning, a body of turkish soldiers was discovered on the island of Prota, one of the Prince's islands, and the point nearest to the british squadron, and that they were erecting a battery to annoy them. Immediate preparation was made for landing the marines, under the command of captain R. Kent; and the *Repulse* and *Lucifer*, being ordered to cover the boats, they proceeded towards the shore. On their opening a fire of grape, a number of Turks quitted the island; and one boat, containing eleven men, supposed to comprise the remainder of those who had landed, was captured. In the afternoon it was discovered that some Turks still remained on the island of Prota: the marines of the *Canopus* immediately landed, and pursuing the Turks to a monastery with loop-holes for musketry, they got worsted, and captain Kent with several of the party were killed. The signal having been made for assistance, the marines and armed boats' crews of the *Royal George*, *Windsor Castle*, and *Standard*, hastened to assist their comrades on shore; a smart skirmish ensued, and when at its height an officer arrived from the admiral with orders for the detachment to return on board. The boats reached their respective ships soon after dark, with the loss of 7 killed, and 19 wounded.

The squadron remained inactive at their anchorage until the 1st of March, when the wind having shifted to the north-east, the whole of the ships were under sail at 8 h. 30 m. A.M., formed in line of battle. By this time the Turks had succeeded in equipping five sail of the line and four frigates, and these were anchored in the road, when the british squadron stood on and off Constantinople during the day. At night they bore up for

the Dardanelles, and at 5 P.M. on the 2nd came to anchor six miles above Pesquies Point, where they were joined by the *Active* frigate. On the 3rd, at 7 h. 30 m. A.M., the squadron again weighed, and at 8 h. 15 m. bore up, under top-sails, with a fresh breeze from the north-east, proceeding down the channel in the same order in which they had sailed up, except that the *Active* preceded the *Endymion*, and that the *Meteor* was towed by the latter, instead of by the *Standard*. On approaching the castle of Abydos, the *Royal George* fired a salute of 13 guns, which produced an immediate discharge of shot and shells from the two castles, and from the battery on Point Pesquies, where the guns had been remounted. The other batteries, on both sides, opened their fire as the ships successively arrived abreast of them, and a heavy cannonade was maintained by the squadron until 11 h. 40 m. A.M. At a little before noon the ships anchored off Cape Janizary, out of the reach of further molestation, and here they were joined by a russian squadron of eight sail of the line.

Several ships were struck by the enormous stone-shot thrown by the Turks, some weighing as much as 800 lbs.; and the loss sustained by the squadron in repassing the Dardanelles was as follows: *Canopus*, 3 wounded; *Repulse*, 10 killed, 10 wounded; *Royal George*, 3 killed, 27 wounded; *Windsor Castle*, 3 killed, 13 wounded; *Standard*, 8 killed, 46 wounded; *Thunderer*, 2 killed, 14 wounded; *Active*, 8 wounded; *Endymion*, 3 killed, 9 wounded; *Meteor*, 8 wounded: making a total of 29 killed, 138 wounded: and the total loss in this expedition amounted to 46 killed and 235 wounded. Captain Rodolphus Kent of the marines was among the killed; lieutenants Edward Marshall, William Fynmore, and George E. Balchild (artillery), wounded.

The attack by a british squadron on the capital of Turkey was followed by the departure of an expedition against Alexandria, in Egypt, consisting of the 74-gun ship *Tigre*, captain B. Hallowell, *Apollo* frigate, and thirty-three sail of transports,

conveying 5000 troops, under major-general Fraser, which sailed from Messina on the 6th of March; and part of the convoy anchored off the old, or western harbour. On the 16th, the governor having refused to surrender the place, 700 men with 5 field-pieces were disembarked on the evening of the 17th without opposition, near the ravine that runs from lake Mareotis to the sea; and on the 18th 300 more men were safely landed. In the evening the brigade moved forward, attacked and carried the enemy's advanced work, with the loss of 7 killed and 10 wounded. The remainder of the transports, under charge of the Apollo, arrived on the 19th, and on the following day the troops safely debarked in Aboukir bay. This formidable reinforcement induced the turkish governor to offer terms of capitulation; and the proposal having been accepted, immediate possession was taken of the city of Alexandria, the garrison of which amounted to 467 troops and sailors.

On the 22nd, vice-admiral Duckworth with a part of his squadron arrived on the coast, and their appearance induced major-general Fraser to attack Rosetta and Rhamanieh, chiefly to obtain a supply of provisions for the garrison. In attempting to possess themselves of the town, the troops were completely defeated, and they returned to Alexandria with the loss of 400 killed and wounded, including among the slain the gallant major-general. The British, being overpowered by superior numbers, and having lost upwards of 1000 men in killed, wounded, and prisoners, were compelled, in the middle of September, to evacuate Egypt, by a convention with the governor of the province.

On the 1st of March the boats of the 50-gun ship Glatton, under the orders of lieutenant Edward Watson, assisted by lieutenants of marines Charles A. Trusson and George Augustus Edward Sandwith, covered by the 14-gun brig *Hirondelle*, attacked a turkish ship mounting 10 guns, anchored in the port of Sigri. The enterprise fully succeeded, but with the loss of lieutenant Watson and 4 men killed, and 9 wounded.

On the 15th of March the 22-gun ship *Comus*, captain Conway Shipley, cruising off Grand Canaria, sent her boats under the orders of lieutenant George E. Watts, assisted by lieutenant of marines George Campbell, to bring out some vessels in the *Riarta de Haz*. Although the vessels, which consisted of six brigs, were moored under the protection of three batteries, they were brought out without incurring any greater loss than one person (lieutenant Campbell) wounded.

On the 6th of August the 38-gun frigate *Hydra*, captain George Mundy, when cruising on the coast of Catalonia, late in the evening chased an armed polacre ship and two brigs into the port of Begur. Early on the following morning, the 7th, the vessels were discovered lying in a narrow harbour strongly defended, under the close protection of a battery and a tower upon a cliff on one side, and of rocks and bushes calculated for musketry on the other: it was nevertheless resolved to attempt their capture.

The *Hydra* came to an anchor, with springs on her cables, at the entrance of the harbour about 1 P.M., and opened her broadside upon the battery and shipping; the fire was immediately returned, and continued for nearly an hour, when finding that it began to slacken on the part of the enemy, the boats were despatched under the command of lieutenant Edward O'Brien Drury, assisted by lieutenants John Hayes and Edward Pengelly of the marines. On their approach they were received by a smart fire of langridge from the shipping and fort, and of musketry from the rocks: heedless of this resistance the party landed, and having with difficulty ascended the cliff, they attacked the fort with so much intrepidity, that the enemy, after spiking the 4 long twenty-four pounders, rushed out on one side as the British entered at the other. Lieutenant Hayes with the marines remained in charge of the battery, which commanded the decks of the vessels as well as the opposite side of the harbour; whilst lieutenant Drury with the remainder of the party advanced towards the town, which having been gained, the

french crews quickly landed, and forming in numerous groupes among the rocks, fired upon the seamen as they were boarding the vessels. Notwithstanding this determined opposition, the prizes were safely brought out, and the marines re-embarked under a smart fire of musketry, without sustaining a greater loss than 1 man killed, and 3 wounded.

1808.

Shortly after the british armament had quitted the Sound, the season was so far advanced as to render the Baltic unsafe for any operations of the british navy. The emperor Alexander, shielding himself under that protection, assumed a tone of defiance, and the imperial declaration issued at St. Petersburg on the 31st of October, which reached London the 3rd of December, was replied to by a counter declaration, clearly and forcibly drawn up. On the same day reprisals were ordered against russian ships, but the time of the year prevented the immediate undertaking of any active measures.

Sweden, as the ally of England, became necessarily involved in war with Denmark and Russia; but happily for Sweden the former had only two ships of the line, whilst the russian fleet in the Baltic consisted of twenty new ships of the line and fourteen frigates. At this period the swedish fleet comprised twelve line-of-battle ships and six frigates, but not more than six of the former were in an effective state. The british naval force assembled in the Sound, Great Belt, and Baltic, under the command of sir James Saumarez, in the latter part of May, amounted to eleven ships of the line, five frigates, besides sloops, etc. Upwards of two hundred sail of transports, having 14,000 men under sir John Moore had accompanied the fleet, but from some misunderstanding relative to the particular service allotted to these troops, they returned to England without having been disembarked.

The swedish squadron of seven sail of the line was lying at anchor in Oro roads on the 20th of August, when the Centaur

74, bearing the flag of sir Samuel Hood, and Implacable 74, captain Thomas B. Martin, joined them; and on the evening of the 21st nine russian sail of the line, three 50-gun ships, and eight frigates appeared off the road. On the 22nd the swedish squadron was augmented to eleven ships of the line, but their crews were so sickly that upwards of a third of the men were confined in bed with the scurvy. The russian fleet still hovered on the coast, and on the 25th, at 6 A. M., the swedish squadron, accompanied by the Centaur and Implacable, got under way, and with a fresh breeze at north-east made sail in pursuit of them. A swedish ship having parted company for Carlscona with sick, the combined fleet now consisted of ten ships of 74 guns, and two of 64, so that the force on both sides was nearly equal. At daylight on the 26th the russian fleet was to windward, in a scattered state, and a seventy-four considerably to leeward of the rest. At this time the British were much to windward of the Swedes, when the Implacable, being still nearer to the enemy than her consort, was enabled, at about 6 h. 45 m. A. M., to bring the Sewolod to action; and having tacked, she closed within pistol-shot to leeward, and engaged the russian ship with such decided effect, that in less than an hour the Sewolod surrendered.

The russian admiral, who with his fleet had bore up since the commencement of the conflict, was now within two miles of the Implacable; consequently the latter, having been recalled by sir Samuel Hood, made sail to close the british admiral, then about a mile and a half to leeward, and both british seventy-fours ran down towards the swedish fleet, who were more than eight miles distant. In this smart engagement the Implacable sustained a loss of 6 killed and 26 wounded. On board the Sewolod, 48 were killed and 80 wounded.

A russian frigate having taken the disabled Sewolod in tow, the fleet again hauled to the wind, pursued by the two british ships, who soon compelled the frigate to relinquish her charge; but the Russians again boldly bore up, and having rescued their

friend, a change of wind enabled the russian admiral to reach Rogerwick, where the fleet anchored, leaving the Sewolod aground on a shoal not far from the entrance of the harbour. The Sewolod soon after got afloat, and the wind moderating in the afternoon, a division of boats was sent out to tow the disabled ship into the road. Observing this movement, the Centaur and Implacable immediately bore up, and at 8 P.M. the Centaur ran the Sewolod on board; and as her bow gradually swept along the Centaur's starboard side, the guns were discharged as the russian ship successively pressed against the muzzles. As soon as she had dropped so far astern as the mizen rigging of the Centaur, the bowsprit of the russian ship was lashed, by the joint exertions of captain Webly, lieutenant Lawless, and Mr. Strode the master, although exposed to a heavy fire of musketry. Much valour was here displayed on both sides, and several attempts were made to board; but the deliberate fire of the marines under captain Baile, and the stern chase guns, defeated the gallant attempts of the Russians. The arrival of the Implacable, who anchored within musket-shot, soon compelled the Sewolod to haul down her colours, and this nobly-defended ship, after receiving a reinforcement of 100 men to supply the place of those killed or wounded in action with her first opponent, lost 180 in killed and wounded in her contest with the Centaur, making her total loss amount to 303. Both the Centaur and her prize took the ground shortly after the action, which being observed by the russian admiral, two sail were detached to recover the captured ship; but by the prompt exertions of the Implacable, the Centaur was soon hove into deep water, and the Russians returned to their anchorage, whilst the Sewolod was set on fire and destroyed. The Centaur lost 3 killed, lieutenant Lawless and 26 wounded.

During the early part of August rear-admiral Keats in the Superb, with the Brunswick and Edgar of 74 guns, and six smaller vessels, were actively employed in removing the spanish troops, under the marquís de la Romana, from the island of Zea-

land. This army had been withdrawn from Spain by Napoléon, under the pretence of securing Hanover ; but no sooner had they arrived in Germany, than they were transferred to the danish islands in the Baltic. These gallant patriots, on learning the aggression which Spain was enduring, instantly formed a circle round their colours, and swore to be faithful to their country.

On the 9th of August, in conformity with a plan concerted between the rear-admiral and the spanish marquis, 6000 spanish troops took possession of the fort and town of Nyborg, in the island of Funen ; and on the morning of the 11th the embarkation was completed, under the protection of the british squadron anchored off the island of Sproe. In the course of the same day more than 1000 Spaniards joined by sea from Jutland, whilst another 1000 were thrown into Langeland, to strengthen the fort held by the spanish troops on that island. The force embarked at Nyborg, and those that escaped to the squadron from Jutland, were landed at Langeland, whence the whole, numbering about 10,000 men, were conveyed to England, and subsequently to Spain.

On the 8th of February the 36-gun frigate *Meleager*, captain J. Broughton, cruising off San Jago de Cuba, discovered a felucca anchored near the shore, which proved to be the french privateer *Renard*, armed with a long six-pounder and 47 men. In the evening, the barge, cutter, and jolly-boat, under the orders of lieutenant George Tupman, assisted by lieutenant Sainburn and lieutenant of marines James Deane, attacked the privateer and carried her, without sustaining any loss ; whilst 18 of the felucca's crew jumped overboard, and swam to the shore.

The 38-gun frigate *San Fiorenzo*, captain George N. Hardinge, cruising off Pointe de Galle, Ceylon, on the 4th of March chased the french 40-gun frigate *Piémontaise*, and at 11 h. 40 m. P.M. brought her to close action, which lasted only ten minutes, when the french frigate made sail, pursued by the *San Fiorenzo*, who had 5 men wounded. At daylight on the 7th, the enemy finding an action unavoidable, hoisted her colours and wore

round to await the attack. At 6 h. 20 m., being within half a mile of the San Fiorenzo, the Piémontaise fired her broadside, and the two frigates were warmly engaged as they gradually closed to the distance of a quarter of a mile; a constant and well-directed fire was maintained on both sides until 8 h. 15 m., when the Piémontaise bore up and made sail before the wind, leaving the San Fiorenzo with her sails and rigging so much disabled as to be incapable of immediate pursuit, and her loss amounted to 8 killed and 14 wounded.

At daylight on the 8th the french frigate was seen to leeward about four leagues distant, but it was not until 9 A.M. that the San Fiorenzo, being perfectly refitted, bore up under all sail in chase; nor did the Piémontaise avoid her pursuer, until the british frigate hauled across her stern, in order to obtain the weather-gage. The french ship then hauled up also, and made sail; but as the superior sailing of the San Fiorenzo rendered her escape improbable, the Piémontaise tacked, and at 4 P.M., when passing within musket-shot, both ships renewed the engagement. In the second broadside from the french frigate a grape-shot killed captain Hardinge, and the command of the San Fiorenzo devolved upon lieutenant William Dawson. As soon as the Piémontaise got abaft the beam of her opponent, she wore round; and at 5 h. 49 m. P.M., after a close action of one hour and twenty minutes, with all her masts, rigging, and sails disabled, and having sustained a loss of 48 killed and 112 wounded, out of a crew of 366 Frenchmen and 200 lascars, the french frigate hauled down her colours. Of the 186 men and boys at quarters on board the San Fiorenzo, her captain and 4 men were killed; 1 lieutenant and 8 men wounded: making her total loss 13 killed and 28 wounded.

Soon after daylight on the 9th the three masts of the Piémontaise fell over the side; and on the 13th both frigates anchored in Columbo, island of Ceylon. Lieutenant Dawson, in his official letter, mentions in high terms the conduct of lieutenant Samuel Ashmore, in command of the marines.

On the 13th of March the 36-gun frigate *Emerald*, captain F. L. Maitland, being off the harbour of Vivero, in Spain, at 5 P.M. discovered lying there a french armed schooner, and immediately stood in with a view to attempt her capture. The frigate was fired upon by a battery of 8 twenty-four pounders on the right-hand side of the harbour; and shortly afterwards another fort, situated about a mile further in on the left, mounting 5 twenty-four pounders, also opened upon her. A detachment of seamen under lieutenant Charles Bertram, and the marines under lieutenants Giles Meech and John Husband, proceeded to storm the outer fort, while the *Emerald* stood in as near as the depth of water would admit, and cannonaded the other. The Spaniards were soon driven out of the right-hand fort, and the guns spiked. In the mean time lieutenant Smith, with another party of men, proceeded to attack the other battery, and were opposed by a party of soldiers, who retreated after sustaining some loss. As soon as the right-hand fort was subdued, the party under lieutenant Bertram moved round to where the schooner had run on shore, and presently meeting the principal part of the vessel's crew, the marines, after an exchange of musketry, drove the enemy at the point of the bayonet.

The schooner, which was the *A-propos*, of 8 twelve-pounder carronades, and a complement of 70 men, from the Isle of France with despatches, having gone on shore at high water, the efforts of the British to get her afloat were unavailing; but notwithstanding they were exposed to a galling fire of musketry the schooner was set on fire, and at 1 A.M. on the 14th she exploded. This enterprise was unfortunately attended with a serious loss: 9 of the *Emerald's* seamen and marines were killed; lieutenant Bertram, lieutenants Meech and Husband of the marines, a master's mate, and 11 seamen and marines wounded. Lieutenant Bertram's conduct on this occasion very deservedly obtained him promotion to the rank of commander; but although the officers of marines distinguished themselves,

and were both wounded, we find no mention of them in captain Maitland's official letter; nor should we have the gratification of recording their gallant services, but for the surgeon's report of their names in the return of the killed and wounded.

On the 22nd of March the 64-gun ships *Stately* and *Nassau*, captains George Parker and Robert Campbell, when about forty miles to the southward of Greenall on the coast of Jutland, at 4 P. M. fell in with and chased the danish 74-gun ship *Prindts Christian Frederic*; and at 7 h. 40 m. P. M. the *Nassau* got sufficiently near to open her fire, in which she was soon joined by the *Stately*. A running fight was maintained until 9 h. 30 m., when the danish ship struck her colours. At this time the prize was within 500 yards of the shore of Zealand, where she shortly afterwards grounded, and was burnt by the captors.

The *Stately* sustained a loss of 2 seamen and 2 marines killed, one lieutenant and 25 wounded. The *Nassau* 2 killed and 16 wounded. Out of a complement of 576 men, the *Prindts Christian Frederic* had 55 killed and 88 wounded.

On the 25th of April, in the evening, five boats of the 20-gun ship *Daphne* and *Tartarus* sloop, under the orders of lieutenant William Elliott, assisted by lieutenant Richard Roger of the marines and several other officers, were sent to attack a convoy lying at Flodstrand, destined for the relief of Norway, consisting of seven brigs, three galliots, and two other vessels, moored close under the fort of a castle mounting 10 guns, and made fast to the shore by hawsers. As soon as the alarm was given by some of the danish boats, the crews abandoned their vessels, and the moment the British set foot on board, a heavy fire of round and grape was opened upon them from the castle and another battery of three guns, as well as from the crews assembled on the beach; but the vessels were brought out, with so slight a loss as five wounded.

On the 19th of May the 38-gun frigate *Virginie*, captain Edward Brace, in latitude 46° north and longitude 14° west, fell in with the dutch 36-gun frigate *Guelderland*, and after a chase

of three hours brought her to action at 9 h. 45 m. P.M., during which the dutch frigate wore three times, and in attempting to do so the fourth time, fell on board the *Virginie*; but the darkness of the night and the heavy swell prevented her being boarded by the British. After an hour and half's defence, during which she had her three masts and bowsprit shot away by the board, and having 25 killed and 50 wounded, the *Guelderland* struck her colours. The *Virginie* had only one man killed, and two men wounded. Captain Brace, in his laconic report of the action, says, "If any credit is attached to this transaction, I entreat you to bestow it on the officers and men, who under every circumstance in service merit my warmest commendation; in this I include lieutenant John Campbell of the Royal Marines, and the gallantry of his party." Second-lieutenant Peter M'Intyre was also serving on board.

On the 4th of April, as the 38-gun frigate *Alceste*, captain Murray Maxwell, 28-gun frigate *Mercury*, captain J. A. Gordon, and 18-gun brig *Grasshopper*, captain Thomas Searle, lay at anchor about three miles to the north-west of St. Sebastian light-house, near Cadiz, a large convoy, under the protection of twenty gun-boats and a numerous train of flying artillery on the beach, was observed to come down close along-shore from the northward. At 3 P.M., the convoy having arrived abreast of Rota, the *Alceste* and squadron got under way, and stood in for the body of the enemy's vessels, with the wind at west-south-west.

At 4 P.M. the british ships opened their fire, and by this time the shot and shell from the batteries and gun-boats were passing over them,—the frigates devoting their principal attention to the gun-boats, whilst the brig, drawing much less water, stationed herself upon the shoal to the southward of the town, and so close to the batteries that she drove the Spaniards from their guns by the discharge of grape from her carronades. The situation of the frigates was also rather critical, having to tack every fifteen minutes close to the end of the shoal. In the heat

of the action lieutenant Allen Stewart proposed to board the convoy with the boats; and among other officers employed in the enterprise, lieutenants Philip Pipon and Richard Hawkey of the marines volunteered their services. They were soon followed by the Mercury's boats under lieutenant W. O. Pell, accompanied by several naval officers, and by lieutenant James Whylock of the marines. The British dashed on in the most gallant manner, and boarded several tartans, which were brought out from under the very muzzles of the enemy's guns, and protected by the barges and pinnaces of the combined fleet, who had by that time joined the gun-boats. Exclusive of the seven tartans captured, two of the gun-boats were destroyed, and several compelled to run on shore by the fire from the frigates and brig, which did not entirely cease until 6 h. 30 m. P. M. The zest of this gallant enterprise was greatly heightened by its having been performed at the mouth of Cadiz harbour, and in the teeth of eleven sail of the line. All this was effected with so slight a loss as one man mortally, and two slightly wounded on board the Grasshopper.

On the 12th of May the 32-gun frigate Amphion, captain William Hoste, being on her way to the island of Majorca, discovered lying in Rosas bay the french frigate Baleine, armed as a store-ship and mounting 28 guns, with a crew of 150 men. At 10 h. 30 m. A. M. the Baleine opened her fire on the Amphion, as did a battery of eight twenty-four pounders at the starboard entrance of the bay; and the british frigate engaged with such effect as she crossed on different tacks while working up, that at 11 A. M. the Baleine, finding the fire of her opponent getting too warm, slipped her cables and ran on shore close under the protection of Fort Bouton, and the battery on the right.

At 11 h. 30 m. the Amphion anchored with springs in-shore of the spot on which the Baleine had been riding; and veering to a whole cable, opened a smart fire within point-blank shot upon the ship and the batteries; this they returned, and some of the enemy's red-hot shot took effect. At 1 h. 20 m. P. M. the

Baleine was observed to be on fire, and the crew having quitted her, the *Amphion* at 2 h. 20 m. P.M. cut her cable and made sail out of the bay, with no greater loss than one man killed, and a few wounded. Lieutenant Thomas Moore was serving on board the *Amphion*.

On the 31st of July, lieutenant James Rivers Hore landed with his detachment of marines from the 38-gun frigate *Impérieuse*, and took possession of the castle of Mongal, an important post, commanding a pass on the road from Barcelona to Gerona, then besieged by the French, and the only position held by the enemy between these towns. Having destroyed the castle, and with the ruins rendered the road impassable for artillery, the British re-embarked, taking with them 71 prisoners.

On the 7th of November a body of about 5,000 troops occupied the heights around the bay of Rosas; and at noon on the same day, a small detachment having entered the town, the inhabitants fled to their boats, or to the citadel. The 74-gun ship *Excellent*, captain John West, and *Meteor* bomb, captain James Collins, anchored within point-blank shot of the town, and by a well-directed fire compelled the enemy to make a precipitate retreat towards some houses and ruins in rear of the place, which they occupied as an advanced post. During the night captain West landed with a party of seamen and a part of the marines under captain James Nicholson, accompanied by lieutenants H. J. Gillespie and George Pattoun, and occupied the citadel; whilst lieutenant Thomas How and 25 rank and file were placed in Fort Trinidad, with the same number of Spaniards under captain Fitzgerald of that service. On the 8th at noon, captain West made a sortie with his force from the citadel, but the superior numbers of the enemy compelled the British to retire within the fortress, with the loss of several wounded.

On the 15th, at 8 A.M., the French made a resolute attack upon Fort Trinidad with about 200 men, having a force of 2,000 in reserve; and after some sharp firing they were repulsed, with

the loss of many killed and wounded. In a second assault they came on with equal determination, but not a shot was fired from the fort until the outer gate was forced, and then such a steady and well-directed fire of musketry and hand-grenades was opened upon them by the marines under lieutenant How, that they were again compelled to retreat, leaving their leader, a chef-de-brigade, and several officers and men, dead under the walls. Expecting a third assault, captain West, by the means of a rope ladder, threw in a reinforcement, consisting of captain Nicholson and lieutenant Pattoun, with 30 rank and file ; and although the party had bravely entered the fort during an incessant fire of musketry from the besiegers, one man only was slightly wounded. On the 20th the enemy opened a battery of four guns from a height commanding the fort, without making any serious impression ; but they succeeded in driving away the Lucifer bomb-vessel, who had been throwing shells during the two preceding days, impeding them in their construction of works ; and shortly afterwards another battery, erected nearer to the citadel, compelled the Excellent also to move further from the shore. The loss sustained by the Excellent and Meteor in these different attacks, amounted to 21 seamen and marines wounded.

On the 21st the Excellent was relieved by the 74-gun ship Fame, captain Richard H. A. Bennet ; and a party of marines from that ship, under lieutenant Henry Wall, supplied the place of those of the Excellent, who had been withdrawn from Fort Trinidad ; but lieutenant Thomas How, in compliance with the following order, remained in command of the detachment in that fortress.

“ Rosas Bay, 19th November, 1808.

“ Captain West acquaints lieutenant How of the Royal Marines, that captain Bennet of H.M.S. Fame, has requested that lieutenant How may remain in the castle of Trinity ; having learnt the gallant manner in which he defended it against the assaults of the enemy, who were repulsed with great loss.”

On the following day lieutenant How received a letter from captain Bennet, of which the subjoined is a copy :

"Fame, 20th November, 1808.

SIR,

The admiration which your conduct excited in every one who was witness to the attack of the French on Fort Trinidad, makes me very happy in confiding to your charge the division of marines landed in that fortress.

"Hoping that such energy and courage will meet with adequate reward,

I subscribe myself, sir,

Your very humble servant,

(Signed) R. H. A. BENNET."

Extract from a letter written to Captain West by general Vives, captain-general of Catalonia :

"I have seen, by the report sent me by the commandant of Fort Trinidad, how much he was assisted by, and how bravely behaved, the English soldiers who were in it under the command of lieutenant Thomas How, in the attacks of the enemy made on the 15th instant.

"I beg you to give them the most expressive thanks from me, and tell them I recommend their merit to admiral lord Collingwood."

Captain Fitzgerald, the commandant of Fort Trinidad, alluded to in the letter of the captain-general, thus expresses himself to captain West :

"Permit me to express the high sense I have of the courage and spirited conduct of lieutenant Thomas How, and the party of Royal Marines under his command. His attention in every particular circumstance prior to the attacks, made me confident that I should receive every assistance from him ; and I hope that every report you may be pleased to make, will be attended with future advantage to him.

“ It is impossible for me to comment on the conduct of any one of the marines individually ; all seemed animated with the same courage, and to their incessant and well-directed fire I attribute, in a very great degree, the defeat of the enemy. If they had a fault, it was in rather too wanton an exposure of their persons to get at the force opposed to them. I regret that some were severely wounded, but hope they will do well.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) LATIUS FITZGERALD.”

On the 22nd both Fort Trinidad and the citadel of Rosas were half invested, a breach nearly effected in Trinidad, and the spanish garrisons were in such deplorable condition, that it was deemed necessary on the following day to withdraw the marines ; and shortly afterwards the *Fame* sailed from the coast.

On the 24th the 38-gun frigate *Impérieuse* arrived in the bay, and joined the *Lucifer* and *Meteor* bombs. Lord Cochrane went immediately to examine the state of the defences of Rosas, which he described to be in a most wretched condition, both without and within ; having neither measures for their powder, or saws for the fuses of the shells : hats and axes supplied their place. The castle of Trinidad, situated on the side of an eminence, but commanded by the heights, was closely invested : 3 twenty-four pounders battered in breach, to which a fourth gun was afterwards added, and a passage through the wall to the lower bomb-proof was nearly effected, when the marines of the *Fame* were withdrawn, as we have related, on the 23rd.

As the safety of the citadel mainly depended on the retention of this post, lord Cochrane determined on throwing a reinforcement into it ; and he immediately landed with thirty seamen, accompanied by thirty marines commanded by lieutenant James Rivers Hore. At this time the garrison consisted of eighty spaniards, who were on the point of surrendering the fort ; but the resources of lord Cochrane's active mind soon gave fresh energy to the desponding troops : among other substitutes made

use of, 1000 bags, besides barrels and palisadoes, supplied the place of walls and ditches; so that when the French assaulted the castle on the 30th with 1000 men, they were repulsed with the loss of their commanding-officer, and all who attempted to mount the breach. This gallant exploit was effected without any loss on the part of the British. On the 5th of December the citadel of Rosas capitulated; and as further resistance in Fort Trinidad was considered impracticable, lord Cochrane, after firing the trains for exploding the magazines, re-embarked the force under his command.

His lordship thus expresses himself in his official letter: "As to the officers, seamen, and marines of this ship, the fatigues they underwent, and the gallant manner in which they behaved, deserved every praise."

Lieutenant George E. Balchild of the marine artillery was serving on board the Meteor, and lieutenant John Lawrence in the Lucifer, during the bombardment of Rosas.

His Majesty Ferdinand VII. conferred a cross of honour on the defenders of Rosas; and in addition, a pension of a dollar a-month for life was given to those who were in Fort Trinidad during the attack by the French in November 1808. This reward was also intended for the detachment under lieutenant How, in order to mark the estimation in which his Catholic Majesty held the heroic services of the marines on that occasion.

On the 9th of July, at day-break, the 22-gun ship Porcupine, captain the hon. Henry Duncan, was lying becalmed off Monte Circello, on the coast of Romania, when two french gun-boats with a merchant vessel were seen passing along shore to the westward. The boats of the frigate, under the orders of lieutenant G. Price, assisted by several officers, and among them lieutenant James Renwick of the marines, were immediately sent in pursuit. After a pull of eight hours, the merchant vessel was driven ashore, and the gun-boats compelled to take shelter under the batteries of Port Dango. On the morning of the 10th a large polacre ship was observed lying at the entrance

of the harbour; and as soon as it grew dark, the boats, commanded as before, were despatched to cut her out.

Although the polacre mounted 6 long six-pounders, with a crew of 25 men, expecting to be attacked was moored close to the beach lined with soldiers, and lay within pistol-shot of two batteries, and a tower and three gun-boats, she was gallantly boarded and carried. Owing to the light and baffling winds, it was an hour and twenty minutes before the prize was got beyond the range of grape; but she was at length safely brought out, with no greater loss than eight wounded, including lieutenant Price, severely.

On the 8th of August the Porcupine chased another polacre ship into a harbour in the island of Planosa, near Elba, which was defended by a tower and a battery. In the evening the boats under lieutenant Francis Smith, accompanied by lieutenant James Renwick of the marines, rowed into the harbour with muffled oars, and boarded the vessels without sustaining any loss. Notwithstanding the ship was moored within thirty yards of a battery mounting eight guns, which immediately opened on the boats a heavy fire of round and grape, and that they were also exposed to the musketry of several french soldiers on the beach, and one of the polacre's guns which had been landed for her defence, the vessel was safely brought out. She proved to be the Conception, mounting four guns, bound to the island of Cyprus from Genoa. This daring exploit was attended with the loss of that promising and gallant officer, lieutenant James Renwick of the marines, 1 seaman killed, and 7 men wounded.

On the 26th of June, at daylight, the 64-gun ship Standard, captain Thomas Harvey, cruising off the island of Corfu, chased an italian gun-vessel and a french despatch-boat. At 9 A.M., it falling calm, the pinnace with lieutenant Call, and the cutter with captain Edward Nicolls of the marines, were sent to attempt their capture. After rowing two hours in very hot weather, the boats received a fire of musketry from the gun-vessel,

which they returned; and on drawing near, the gun-vessel pulled short round and fired her long 4-pounder at the cutter, which happened to be the leading boat. Captain Nicolls instantly dashed alongside, and carried the italian gun-boat Volpe, commanded by an enseigne-de-vaisseau, and mounting one long four-pounder, with 20 well-armed men. No loss was sustained on the part of the British in this affair.

On the 5th of July the 38-gun frigate Seahorse, captain John Stewart, cruising in the Archipelago, at 5 h. 45 m. P.M. descried the Badere-Zaffer, mounting 30 brass guns on the main-deck, of three different calibres; consisting of 2 thirty-six pounders amidships, then 8 twenty-four pounders, and the remaining 20 were eighteen-pounders, placed at the two extremities of the ship: on the quarter-deck and forecastle she carried 22 long twelve-pounders, making in the whole 52 guns, with a crew of 543 men. The other ship was the Alis-Fezan, mounting 24 long brass twelve-pounders, and two mortars in the centre of the ship, with a complement of 230 men.

At 9 h. 30 m. P.M. the Seahorse, having arrived abreast and to windward of the turkish frigate, ordered her to surrender; which being refused by her commander, the Seahorse poured into her a double-shotted broadside, and the Badere-Zaffer instantly returned the fire. The frigates became warmly engaged, both steering free with a light wind, about two points abaft the starboard beam. This course enabled the corvette to join in the cannonade, and when the Badere-Zaffer had run sufficiently to leeward for that purpose, she put her helm a-port to lay the british frigate on board. To avoid this, the Seahorse hauled close to the wind, leaving her opponent with her sails all aback, and in great confusion: she then tacked, and stood for the Badere-Zaffer, who had worn round and was running nearly before the wind. Just as the Seahorse was about to close on the weather-quarter of the turkish frigate, the Alis-Fezan interposed; whereupon the british frigate sheered towards this new antagonist, and poured in a well-directed broadside at the dis-

tance of not more than two hundred yards: after engaging her a short time, the corvette at 10 h. 15 m. luffed under the stern of the british ship, and stood away in the direction of the island of Pelagnisi. The breeze having freshened, the Seahorse was enabled to overtake the Badere-Zaffer, and at 10 h. 35 m. to renew the engagement with her starboard guns, both ships running before the wind. At 11 P.M. the Turks made another attempt to board, and the action continued until the turkish frigate became completely disabled. Having repeatedly hailed without obtaining a reply, the Seahorse at 1 h. 15 m. A.M. on the 6th, ranged up on the larboard-quarter of her opponent, whose fore and main top-masts were over the side; upon which the Badere-Zaffer fired some of her aftermost guns, and instantly received the broadside of the british frigate, who then hauled off and brought to until daylight, at which time the Badere-Zaffer was about a mile distant, steering before the wind under her shreds of courses. The Seahorse soon came up with her antagonist, and passing athwart her stern, discharged a well-directed broadside, which quickly induced the Turks to haul down the colours from the stump of her mizen-mast. Lieutenant Downie, accompanied by lieutenant John Cook of the marines, took possession of the prize, whose loss amounted to 170 killed and 200 wounded; while the Seahorse, out of 251 men and boys, had only 5 men killed and 10 wounded. In the official letter of captain Stewart, detailing this determined and gallant affair, the name of the officer of marines is not even mentioned!

On the 20th of October the 64-gun ship Africa, captain John Barrett, having accompanied a convoy of 137 sail from Carls-crona, in Sweden, and then safely into the channel of Malmo, the british ship, for their better protection, anchored about eight miles to the southward of the town of Drago, on the danish island of Amag. At about 40 minutes past noon, a flotilla of gun-boats was observed advancing towards the convoy; upon which the Africa immediately got under way, and stood to meet

them; but at 1 P.M. the light wind died away, and it soon fell perfectly calm. The flotilla were now seen making towards the Africa, consisting of 25 large gun and mortar-boats, and 7 armed launches; mounting between them about 80 heavy long guns, with crews amounting to upwards of 1600 men.

At 2 h. 55 m. P.M. the gun-boats having taken positions on the Africa's bow and quarter, commenced an animated fire of round and grape, the british ship returning the fire with such guns as she could bring to bear; and in this way the engagement continued without intermission until 6 h. 45 m. P.M., when the darkness put an end to the contest. During the action the colours of the Africa were twice shot away, and each time the Danes advanced cheering, in the persuasion that they were victorious; but the british crew, rehoisting their colours cheered in return, and gave them such a reception as made them hasten back to their friends. The Africa's lower masts and yards were badly wounded, and her rigging and sails cut to pieces: her loss amounted to 9 killed; captain Dougal Stewart of the marines had a leg shattered and a finger amputated, lieutenant Thomas Buttle wounded in the arm, and lieutenant John George Richardson in the leg, arm, and mouth, besides one midshipman, and 49 men wounded. The Africa was so much disabled, that she returned to Calscrona to refit.

On the 10th of November the 36-gun frigate Amethyst, captain Michael Seymour, at 6 h. 42 m. P.M., when standing from the north-west point of the isle of Groix towards the main land, with the wind at east-north-east, discovered a vessel on her weather-quarter; she immediately wore round in chase, and presently closed with the french 40-gun frigate Thétis, from l'Orient bound to Martinique. At 9 P.M. the Amethyst and the stranger exchanged some shot, and captain Seymour apprized the 74 gun-ship Triumph of the enemy's presence. The two frigates were now running before the wind with studding-sails set; but shortly after the firing commenced, the Amethyst took in her studding-sails and royals. At 9 h. 15 m. the Thétis

luffed to on the starboard tack; upon which the Amethyst, to avoid being raked, put her helm a-starboard, and the instant the Thétis had discharged her starboard broadside, the british frigate, just clearing the french ship's starboard-quarter, shot up in the wind abreast of her to windward. A sharp action was now maintained on both sides, until the two ships, on losing their way, fell off and stood again to the westward, furiously engaging. At 9 h. 40 m. the Thétis, in attempting to cross her opponent's stern, ran her jib-boom between the Amethyst's main and mizen rigging. In a few minutes the two ships separated and went off, steering the same course as before, warmly engaging. At 10 h. 5 m. P.M. the Amethyst, having crossed her opponent's hawse, placed herself a little abaft her larboard beam, still running with the wind on the starboard-quarter. At 10 h. 20 m. P.M. the mizen-mast of the british ship was shot away, which falling in-board, damaged the wheel and encumbered the whole quarter-deck; and nearly at the same time the mizen-mast of the Thétis fell over the side. At 11 P.M., the french frigate having made an attempt to lay the Amethyst on board, the two ships met at the bow, and the Thétis then dropping alongside, received the broadside of her opponent. Soon afterwards the Amethyst's bower-anchor hooked the foremost main-deck port of the Thétis, and in this way the action continued, with destructive effect on both sides, until twenty minutes past midnight; when, having completely silenced her antagonist, the Amethyst boarded and carried the french frigate. About 1 A.M. on the 11th the fore and main-masts of the Thétis fell over the side, and shortly afterwards the Triumph was seen coming up under a press of sail. In about another quarter of an hour the Shannon joined from the westward, and after receiving on board several prisoners, took the dismasted frigate in tow.

The loss sustained by the Amethyst, out of a crew of 261 men and boys, amounted to second-lieutenant Bernard Kendall of the marines, 10 seamen, and 8 marines killed; first-lieutenant

of marines, Samuel John Payne (dangerously), 2 midshipmen, her boatswain, captain's clerk, 32 seamen, 12 marines, and 2 boys wounded. Total 19 killed, and 51 wounded. The *Thétis*, out of a crew of 436, had her captain and 134 men killed, and 102 wounded.

On the 1st of August the 74-gun ship *Kent*, captain Thomas Rogers, and *Wizard* sloop, captain William Ferris, running along the coast near Genoa, discovered ten sail of vessels anchored close to the beach abreast of the town of Noli, and protected by a gun-boat. The boats of both ships were despatched under the orders of lieutenant William Cashman, with four other lieutenants, assisted by captain Henry Rea, and lieutenants John Hanlon and Patrick Grant of the marines. The boats, towed in by the *Wizard*, got close to the vessels, and finding it impossible to bring them out without landing, (as most of them were fastened to the shore by ropes from their keels and mast-heads), they pulled towards the beach with great resolution, exposed to the fire of two guns in the bow of the gun-boat, two field-pieces placed in a grove which flanked the beach, and of a gun in front of the town, whilst a heavy fire of musketry was kept up upon them from the houses. But these obstacles were no check to the ardour and intrepidity of the british seamen and marines, who leaped from the boats and immediately rushed upon the enemy with the bayonet. The guns were soon taken by lieutenant Cashman, and lieutenant Hanlon of the marines; whilst the enemy, who had drawn up a considerable force to defend the field-pieces, were dislodged by captain Rea and lieutenant Grant of the marines, who took possession of the guns and brought them off. In the mean time the other officers, having equally distinguished themselves in driving the enemy from the beach, captured the gun-boat and her convoy, and the whole were brought out under the protection of the *Wizard*. This dashing enterprise was effected with so slight a loss as one man killed, and one mortally wounded.

1809.

In the early part of December 1808, a small expedition, fitted out at the Brazils, consisting of the 20-gun ship *Confiance*, captain J. L. Yeo, two portuguese brigs, and some smaller vessels, having on board 550 portuguese troops, took possession of the district of Oyapok in french Guyane; and this success induced captain Yeo to attempt the capture of Cayenne. On the 6th of January, 1809, the portuguese troops, with 80 seamen and marines from the *Confiance*, having been embarked in the smaller vessels, entered the river Mahuy, captain Yeo with 250 men proceeded to attack some forts, and landing in a bay between Fort Diamant and the battery named *Dégras des Cannes*, he directed the portuguese major to move to the left and take the battery, whilst the captain, accompanied by lieutenants Mulcaster and Blyth, lieutenant of marines John Read, and some other officers, with a strong party of the *Confiance's* seamen and marines, marched to Fort Diamant. Both forts were promptly carried, and in the attack of the Diamant, which mounted two long twenty-four pounders, and one brass eight, the british loss amounted to lieutenant John Read of the marines (mortally), 1 seaman, and 5 marines badly wounded. On the part of the French, the commandant and 3 men were killed, and 4 wounded. Leaving lieutenant Mulcaster with a party of men in Fort Diamant, captain Yeo, with the remainder of the detachment, attacked two batteries on the creek leading to Cayenne. On the 8th, the allied forces assaulted the post which Victor Hughes had made his head-quarters, defended by a field-piece and 100 of his best troops. These were speedily attacked with the pike and bayonet, and the British, cheering as they rushed on, drove the enemy and captured the field-piece. The town of Cayenne surrendered on the 14th, when the french troops, amounting to 400 men, together with 800 militia and blacks who were incorporated with the regular troops, delivered in their arms.

In thus acquiring the whole of the french settlement of Cayenne, the British sustained the comparatively trifling loss of

lieutenant Read of the marines killed, and 23 men wounded. The Portuguese had 1 killed and 8 wounded; and the French 16 killed and 20 wounded.

On the 22nd of January, 1809, at 7 A.M., the french 40-gun frigate *Topaze*, from Brest, bound to Cayenne, finding the port blockaded, was steering for Guadaloupe, when she fell in with the *Hazard* sloop, captain H. Cameron. The *Jason* 38, captain William Maule, and *Cleopatra* 32, captain S. J. Pechell, soon afterwards made their appearance; and the *Topaze*, having no alternative, ran close in-shore, and at 11 A.M. anchored with springs on her cables. The *Cleopatra* arrived within pistol-shot of the *Topaze* at 4 h. 30 m. P.M., and both ships were warmly engaged until 5 h. 20 m.; when the *Jason* and *Hazard* coming up, and about to open their fire, the french frigate hauled down her colours. The *Cleopatra* had 2 men killed and 1 wounded; the *Topaze*, out of 430 men, had 12 killed and 14 wounded.

On the 10th of February the french 40-gun frigate *Junon*, when off the Virgin Islands, was chased by the 16-gun brigs *Asp* and *Supérieure*. The latter, by her superior sailing, kept close to the enemy until the 38-gun frigates *Latona* and *Horatio* hove in sight and joined in the chase. At 36 m. P.M. the *Horatio* ranged up alongside to windward of her antagonist, and the two ships running free on the starboard tack, became closely engaged. Shortly after 1 P.M. captain Scott and lieutenant Manley H. Dixon were severely wounded, and the command devolved on the honourable George Douglas. At 1 h. 25 m. the *Horatio* had her main and mizen top-masts shot away, and at that moment the *Latona* was descried about eight miles on the larboard quarter, using every effort to close. The *Junon* then ranged a-head out of shot, and put before the wind. The *Latona*, at 3 h. 25 m., when within pistol-shot, fired her broadside, and the *Driver* now took part in the action. Notwithstanding this overpowering force, the *Junon* continued to defend herself until her main and mizen-masts went over the side, and immediately afterwards, at 3 h. 40 m. P.M., her fore-mast fell over her bows.

The *Horatio* had 7 killed ; her captain, first-lieutenant, lieutenant Richard Blakeny of the marines, and 8 wounded ; and the *Latona* 7 wounded.

On the 8th of February the boats of the 32-gun frigate *Amphion*, and *Redwing* brig, landed in a small creek in the island of Melida and brought off three guns, although the place was defended by 400 french soldiers. Lieutenant Thomas Moore commanded the marines on this occasion.

On the 14th of February, in the morning, the 38-gun frigate *Belle Poule*, captain James Brisbane, chased a suspicious sail, evidently intending to enter the gulf of Velona ; and at day-break on the morning of the 15th, the frigate-built store-ship *Var*, mounting 26 guns, was discovered moored with cables to that fortress. At 1 P.M. the *Belle Poule* anchored and opened her broadside upon the frigate, who finding that the forts made no effort to assist her, fired a few random shots, and then hauled down her colours.

On the 15th of March the 38-gun frigate *Arethusa*, captain Robert Mends, cruising off the north coast of Spain, detached her boats at an early hour in the morning, under the orders of lieutenant H. Pearson, and lieutenant of marines Octavius Scott. At daylight these officers, with a party of seamen and marines, landed and destroyed upwards of twenty heavy guns on the batteries of Lequito, defended by a detachment of french soldiers, a serjeant and twenty of whom threw down their arms when the British forced their way into the principal battery, while several others took to their heels and escaped. This gallant exploit was performed with so slight a loss as 3 men wounded.

On the 20th of March a party of seamen and marines, under lieutenant E. Steele, and lieutenant John Fennell of the marines, landed and destroyed the guns at Baigno, and captured a merchant vessel. Lieutenant Fennell with a party in the mean time ascended the mountain, and burnt the signal-posts. The same evening lieutenant Pearson, and lieutenant Octavius Scott of the marines, took possession of the town of Paissance and destroyed

the guns; the small force stationed there retiring as the British approached.

On the 5th of April the 36-gun frigate *Amethyst*, captain Michael Seymour, when about forty leagues to the westward of Cordouan light-house, cruising in company with the 36-gun frigate *Emerald*, at 11 A.M. descried in the east-south-east a ship steering to the westward. Both frigates immediately made sail after the stranger, who proved to be the french 40-gun frigate *Niémen*, captain Dupotet, two days from Verdon road, bound to the Isle of France. At 7 P.M. the *Amethyst* lost sight both of the *Emerald* and the object of their pursuit; but captain Seymour, concluding that the stranger would resume her course to the westward, at 9 P.M. bore away south-west, and at 9 h. 40 m. P.M. the *Niémen* was discovered on the weather-beam, running with the wind on the larboard quarter. At 11 h. 30 m. the frigates commenced firing their chase guns, and about 1 h. 20 m. on the 6th, the *Amethyst* having closed upon her opponent's larboard quarter, they exchanged broadsides; and then the *Niémen*, after wearing round on the starboard tack, steered north-west, followed by the *Amethyst*, who at 1 h. 45 m. ranged alongside of her to windward. After a mutual cannonade of a few minutes, the *Amethyst* having passed a-head, bore round up, raked her opponent, and then hauled up on the same tack. At 2 h. 45 m. the *Niémen* fell on board the *Amethyst*; but in a few minutes, the latter shooting a-head, the french frigate bore away south-west. At about 3 A.M. the *Amethyst*, having crossed over, got upon the larboard and weather-beam of her opponent, who shortly afterwards caught fire in her larboard hammock-netting; and her mizen-mast and main top-mast having fallen, the *Amethyst* at 3 h. 25 m. bore up under the *Niémen*'s stern, and in bringing to the wind under her lee the main-mast fell over the side, carrying the mizen-mast with it; and almost at the same time the main-mast of the french ship also came down.

At this moment the 38-gun frigate *Arethusa* was seen approaching from the eastward, and at 3 h. 45 m. A.M. the *Niémen*,

after receiving a few shot from the *Arethusa*, lowered her light and surrendered. Of the 222 men and boys on board the *Ame-thyst*, 6 seamen and 2 marines were killed; first-lieutenant Henry Waring and second-lieutenant Samuel Prytherck of the marines, 25 seamen, and 10 marines wounded. Captain Seymour was created a baronet, and lieutenant William Hill (the only lieutenant on board) was made a commander. The *Niémen* had 47 killed and 73 wounded, out of a crew of 319 men and boys.

On the 23rd of February the french 40-gun frigates *Italienne*, *Calypso*, and *Cybèle*, sailed from l'Orient, and on the 24th, when off the isle of Oleron, fell in with a squadron of three ships of the line and a frigate, under rear-admiral Stopford; the french commodore finding it impossible to reach Basque roads, steered for the Sables d'Olonne, closely followed by the *Amelia* frigate and *Dotterel* sloop. At 9 h. 20 m. A.M. the *Amelia*, having wore round, hauled under the stern of the *Cybèle*, gave her a broadside in passing, and then tacked and steered for the enemy, followed by the *Cæsar* 80, *Defence* and *Donegal* 74 guns, under rear-admiral Stopford. The three french frigates had just anchored in line of battle, close under the powerful batteries of the town of Sables d'Olonne, when the *Defiance*, drawing less water than the other line-of-battle ships, having anchored at 11 A.M. within 600 yards of the frigates, opened her fire, receiving in return the fire of the three frigates, as well as of the batteries on shore. In another twenty minutes the *Cæsar* and *Donegal*, and shortly afterwards the *Amelia*, joined in the cannonade.

Unable to withstand the destructive fire of the british squadron, the *Italienne* and *Cybèle* cut their cables, and at 11 h. 50 m. ran on shore. The *Defiance* again brought her guns to bear with effect, joined by the *Donegal* and *Amelia*, while the *Cæsar*, to get into deep water, wore to the south-west. In a few minutes the *Calypso* veered her cable and soon drove on shore, stern foremost. The-ebb tide making, and the water falling fast, the ships were signalled to withdraw; and about fifteen minutes past noon the *Defiance* cut her cable and joined her consorts,

then about two miles to the southward. The *Cæsar* and *Donegal* suffered in their masts and rigging, and the latter had 1 man killed and 6 wounded. The *Defiance*, who bore the brunt of the action, had all her masts badly wounded, her rigging cut to pieces, and sustained a loss of 2 men killed and 25 wounded. Of the french frigates, the *Italienne* had 6 killed, 17 wounded; the *Calypso* 10 killed, 18 wounded; and the *Cybèle* 8 killed and 16 wounded. Having taken the ground at high water, the three frigates could not be got off, and were consequently wrecked.

On the 26th the squadron of rear-admiral Willaumez weighed from Basque roads, and stood for the anchorage inside the *Isle d'Aix*, but in proceeding thither the 74-gun ship *Jean Bart* grounded on the *Palles* shoal, near *Isle Madame*, and was wrecked. The french squadron in the road of *Aix* now consisted of one ship of 120 guns, two of 80, seven of 74, one of 50 guns, and two frigates.

On the 17th of March admiral lord Gambier had assembled in Basque roads thirteen sail of the line, consisting of the *Caledonia* 120, *Cæsar* and *Gibraltar* 80, *Hero*, *Donegal*, *Resolution*, *Theseus*, *Valiant*, *Illustrious*, *Bellona*, and *Revenge*, of 74 guns, stationing his frigates about a mile in advance. The Admiralty, conceiving that the french fleet might be destroyed by fire-ships, ordered several to be prepared; and on the 19th lord Gambier was apprized by their secretary that twelve transports were fitting as fire-ships, and five bomb-vessels would immediately proceed to join his fleet. Lord Cochrane, who had just arrived in England in the *Impérieuse* frigate from the Mediterranean, was selected by the Admiralty as the officer to take charge of this important and difficult service, and on the 3rd of April the *Impérieuse* arrived in Basque roads. As the fire-ships were still waiting in the Downs and at Plymouth for a fair wind, lord Gambier ordered eight of the largest transports of the thirty then in company to be fitted as fire-ships in their stead, as also the *Mediator* frigate store-ship, and three explosives were also equipped under the immediate inspection of lord Cochrane. On

the 10th of April the twelve fire-ships arrived from the Downs, accompanied by some sloops of war, and a transport with congreve rockets.

The french fleet was moored in two lines, the ships in the inner one opposite the intervals of the outer, forming an indented line, with the three frigates in advance; and about a hundred yards in front of the frigates a boom, half a-mile in length and composed of cables secured by enormous anchors, and floated by buoys, was thrown across the channel leading from Basque to Aix road. The batteries on Isle d'Aix, which protected the anchorage, mounted about 30 guns, thirty-six-pounders, and several mortars of the largest dimensions, and it was garrisoned by 2000 conscripts. On the island of Oleron were several batteries; and besides these artificial defences the road of Aix had a shoal at a short distance in its rear, and another (the Palles) stretching along its southern extremity.

On the 11th, in the afternoon, the smaller vessels moved to the stations assigned to them, and the *Impérieuse*, having anchored close to the inner end of the Boyart shoal, was about two and a-half miles from the centre of the french fleet. The *Aigle*, *Unicorn*, and *Pallas* frigates lay at a short distance to the north-west of the *Impérieuse*, in order to receive the crews of the fire-ships on their return, and to render any assistance that might be required. The *Indefatigable*, *Emerald*, and several brigs were also at their stations in the advance; and two brigs, with lights hoisted, were placed to indicate the position of the shoals, in order to direct the fire-vessels in their course to the attack. The eleven british ships of the line anchored at the distance of nine miles from the enemy's fleet, unmoored to be in readiness to co-operate if necessary; but they were obliged again to moor when the weather-tide made.

About 8 h. 30 m. p.m., the night extremely dark, the wind very fresh, blowing right into the roads, and the tide running at the rate of more than two knots an hour; the *Mediator* and the other fire-ships that had anchored round her cut their cables

and made sail. Several of the fire-ships were ignited and abandoned much too early, but others, and especially the Mediator, were admirably conducted. The sky soon became illumined by the glare of so many burning objects,—the flashes of the guns from the forts and enemy's ships, and the flights of shells and rockets from the fire-vessels, forming a scene of awful grandeur. At about 9 h. 30 m. two of the fire-vessels exploded close to the boom, and shortly afterwards the Mediator having forced her way through, was instantly fired at by the french ships. Some other fire-vessels got into the midst of the enemy's fleet, and such was the terror created by the approach of those flaming bodies, that every ship, except the Foudroyant, cut or slipped their cables. About midnight thirteen french ships were aground, all upon the heel, and most of them in a very desperate situation. The falling of the tide obliged the Impérieuse at daylight to weigh and stand out, and lord Cochrane made the following signals to the admiral:—at 5 h. 48 m. A.M., "Half the fleet can deströy the enemy: seven on shore." At 6 h. 40 m., "Eleven on shore." At 7 h. 40 m., "Only two afloat." At 9 h. 30 m., "Enemy preparing to heave off." As soon as the tide would permit, the Impérieuse resumed her station close to the Boyart shoal.

At 10 h. 45 m. the british fleet, by signal from the admiral, got under way, but at 11 h. 30 m. A.M. re-anchored at the distance of three miles from the Isle d'Aix, and about six miles from the grounded ships. The Valiant, Bellona, and Revenge, with the frigates and sloops, were then ordered to anchor as close as possible to the Boyart shoal. Observing this, the Foudroyant and Cassard cut their cables, and made sail for the Charente; but both ships ran aground near the castle of Fouras.

As the flood-tide made, all the grounded ships righted, and lord Cochrane observing that many were getting afloat, and that the Aquilon, Varsovie, and Calcutta were carrying out anchors, got under way in the Impérieuse, and dropped down with the tide towards the enemy; and at 1 h. 30 m. the frigate

set her top-sails, and steered for the grounded ships on the Palles. His lordship, conceiving that no serious attack was intended to be made upon these ships, who were setting sail to assist in forcing them off the shoal, made the signal to the admiral, "The enemy is getting under sail;" and ten minutes afterwards, finding no attention paid to it, he caused to be hoisted No. 378, "The enemy is superior to the chasing ship." This was followed, at 1 h. 45 m., by No. 364, "The ship is in distress, and requires immediate assistance."

At 2 P.M. the *Impérieuse* anchored on the Palles shoal in five fathoms, with springs on her cables, and opened a fire upon the 50-gun ship *Calcutta's* starboard quarter, whilst her bow guns were directed at the *Varsovie* and *Aquilon*, of 74 guns. About 2 h. 15 m. P.M. the *Indefatigable* frigate got under way by signal, and steered for the *Impérieuse*; shortly afterwards the remaining frigates and smaller vessels stood after her, and at about 2 h. 30 m. the *Valiant* and *Revenge* also weighed, and proceeded in the direction of the firing. The *Impérieuse* continued engaging the *Calcutta* until 3 h. 20 m., when the french ship surrendered and was taken possession of. Before 4 P.M. the following ships had come to an anchor: *Pallas* 32, *Aigle* 36, *Emerald* 36, *Unicorn* 32, *Indefatigable* 44, *Valiant* 44, *Impérieuse* 38, *Revenge* 74, who ranged nearly in the form of a crescent around the grounded french ships. The *Aquilon* and *Varsovie*, after sustaining the heavy cannonade opposed to them without the means of using more than their stern guns, displayed a union jack in token of submission at 5 h. 30 m. P.M. Just at this period the 74-gun ship *Theseus* anchored between the *Revenge* and *Valiant*. At 6 P.M. the *Tonnerre* 74, lying just out of range of the nearest british ship, the *Revenge*, was set on fire by her crew, who landed safely on *Isle Madame* at 7 h. 30 m., just before the ship exploded. At 8 h. 30 m. the *Calcutta* also blew up with a tremendous explosion.

The *Revenge*, in the attack upon the grounded ships, had two marines killed, 1 lieutenant, 5 seamen, and 9 marines wounded.

The *Impérieuse* had 3 men killed, and 11 wounded. These were the only ships that sustained any loss in killed or wounded; and it is remarkable, that although they were exposed to a constant fire of shot and shells from the batteries of Isle d'Aix, and of Saumonard on the isle of Oleron, the *Revenge* and *Indefatigable* were the only british ships, out of the fourteen engaged, that suffered from it; and the damage to the latter was merely a wounded top-mast

As the *Ocean* 120, *Cassard*, *Regulus*, *Jemappes*, and *Tourville*, 74, and *Indienne* frigate, were all lying aground at the entrance of the Charente, rear-admiral Stopford in the *Cæsar* got under way, and at 5 h. 30 m. P.M., accompanied by three fire-ships and the launches of the fleet to throw rockets, stood towards Aix roads, receiving a heavy but ineffectual fire from the batteries on both sides. At 7 h. 40 m. the *Cæsar* took the ground on the extremity of the Boyart shoal; the *Valiant* had previously grounded, and these ships did not get afloat again until 10 h. 30 m. P.M. The *Revenge*, with the frigates (except the *Impérieuse*) and brigs, had weighed at 8 P.M., and anchored in the Maumusson passage. The wind becoming favourable, at 2 A.M. on the 13th the *Cæsar* got under way and anchored in Basque roads. During the night the french ships *Aquilon* and *Varsovie* were set on fire; and at 5 A.M. the *Valiant*, *Thesetis*, *Revenge*, *Indefatigable*, *Aigle*, *Unicorn*, and *Emerald*, quitted Aix roads by signal from the *Cæsar*: on the 14th the *Impérieuse* and some brigs, which had continued to annoy the enemy's ships, joined the admiral in Basque roads.

Lord Cochrane, for the gallant part he had performed, was invested with the order of the Bath. Shortly afterwards his lordship intimated to the Admiralty his intention of opposing the vote of thanks in Parliament to lord Gambier for his conduct in Basque roads. In consequence of this communication, lord Gambier was tried by a court-martial at his own request; and "most honourably acquitted" of the charges preferred against him, of not doing his utmost to destroy the enemy's ships.

In the night of the 9th of March three boats, under the command of lieutenant Charles Fraser, were detached from the 44-gun frigate *Argo* by captain S. T. Digby, to attempt the capture of the french national felucca *Joseph*, mounting 1 nine-pounder and 2 three-pounder guns, with a crew of 63 men. Lieutenant John Rawlins Coryton of the marines, commanding the gig, was considerably in advance of the cutter and yawl when the felucca was discovered close under the batteries of San Domingo. Without waiting for the arrival of the other boats, lieutenant Coryton immediately dashed alongside just abaft the gangway, and with his crew of six men succeeded in gaining the deck after a sharp struggle, in which he received two severe wounds. The enemy fled to the forecastle; but on perceiving the inferiority of the assailants, they quickly rallied, and compelled the gallant leader of the attack to retreat against the main shrouds, where he was nobly defending himself, single handed, against nine frenchmen, when lieutenant Fraser arrived to his assistance. After some further resistance on the part of the enemy, in which several were killed or wounded, the remainder saved themselves by running below, or by jumping overboard. Notwithstanding, the felucca was fastened to the shore by two hawsers, and protected by a heavy discharge of grape and musketry, she was safely brought out, with no greater loss than 7 men wounded, and among that number lieutenant Coryton in nine places.

On the 12th of April, in the evening, the boats of the 28-gun ship *Mercury*, captain the hon. Henry Duncan, were detached under the orders of lieutenant W. O. Pell, assisted by several officers, including lieutenant James Whylock of the marines, to cut out two gun-boats moored close to two heavy batteries in the port of Rovigno, on the coast of Istria; the entrance to which is not more than 100 yards across.

After dark the boats pulled into this narrow harbour, and under a heavy fire of grape and musketry, boarded and carried the gun-boat *Leda*, mounting 1 long twenty-four pounder and 6

large swivels, having her boarding-nettings triced up to her mast-head. A fog suddenly came on, which deranged the plan of attack, and the prize was towed out under the additional fire of five guns on an island, that was intended to have been stormed by the marines. In this gallant affair 1 seaman was killed; lieutenant Pell and 3 men wounded.

On the 11th of May the 38-gun frigate Melpomène, captain Peter Parker, having chased a danish cutter of 6 guns on shore at Huilbo harbour, in Jutland, the boats, covered by the fire of the frigate, were detached, and succeeded in destroying the cutter; but with the loss of a lieutenant, 2 seamen, and 3 marines severely wounded.

On the 15th of May, the 28-gun frigate Mercury anchored near the town of Rotti; and after firing a few broadsides, the boats under lieutenant Gordon, assisted by lieutenant James Whylock of the marines, landed and destroyed seven trabacolos. The party then retired, with no other loss than lieutenant Gordon, wounded by an explosion in burning the vessels.

On the 23rd of May the 38-gun frigate Melpomène, captain Frederick Warren, lying at single anchor off Omoe island, in the Great Belt, nearly becalmed, at 10 h. 30 m. P.M. perceiving 20 large danish gun-boats standing towards her, immediately cut her cable and made sail to meet her opponents. The action commenced about midnight, and was maintained with great spirit on both sides until 1 h. 15 m. A.M. on the 30th, when the gun-boats pulled away beyond the reach of the Melpomène's guns, who was unable, from the calm that prevailed, to pursue them. The long heavy guns of the Danes (eighteen and twenty-four pounders) had produced a serious effect upon the frigate: her sails and rigging were cut to pieces, and her hull, both below and above water, greatly shattered. Her loss amounted to 4 seamen and 1 marine killed; lieutenant C. J. Pater of the marines (so dangerously that he died in July following), and 28 men wounded. Lieutenant Robert Gilbert of the marines was also on board the Melpomène.

On the 19th of June the 74 gun-ship *Bellerophon*, captain Samuel Warren, whilst cruising on the coast of Finland, detached her boats to attempt the capture of a lugger and two other vessels at anchor within the islands near Hango. The party was commanded by lieutenant R. Pilch, assisted by several officers, including lieutenant Alfred Octavius Carrington of the marines. The vessels were boarded without opposition, and being of no value were abandoned; but as it was now discovered that on their return the boats would be opposed by four strong batteries and several gun-boats, it was determined to dash at the nearest fort, mounting 4 twenty-four pounders, garrisoned by 103 men. After a very obstinate resistance, this battery was carried in the most gallant manner, the Russians retreating to some boats on the opposite side of the island. Having spiked the guns and destroyed the magazine, the British got back to their ship, with the comparatively slight loss of 5 men wounded.

On the 7th of July a british squadron, consisting of the 74 gun-ships *Implacable* and *Bellerophon*, 38-gun frigate *Melpomène*, and *Prometheus* sloop, were cruising on the coast of Finland, when a russian flotilla of gun-boats and merchant vessels were observed at anchor under Percola Point. The eight gun-boats, armed with one long twenty-four and one thirty-pounder each, and manned with 46 men, were in a position of extraordinary strength, lying between two rocks which served as a cover to their wings, and whence a destructive fire could be poured upon the boats as they approached them. It was nevertheless resolved to make the attack, and seventeen boats were placed under the command of lieutenant Joseph Hawkey, first of the *Implacable*, who was assisted by several officers of the squadron, including lieutenants George Kendall, Thomas Cracknell, James Clarke, Alfred Octavius Carrington, and Robert Gilbert, of the marines. At 9 P.M. the party proceeded on this service, and regardless of the heavy fire opened upon them, pushed on, not firing a musket until close alongside the ene-

my's boats, which they boarded, and after a determined resistance carried all before them. Six gun-boats were captured, one sunk, and the other escaped: twelve vessels laden with powder and provisions for the russian army were also brought out, and an armed ship was destroyed. This dashing enterprise was not accomplished without a very severe loss. Lieutenant Hawkey, having taken one gun-boat, was killed by a grape-shot in the act of boarding a second; and the last words of this gallant officer were, "Huzza!—push on: England for ever!" The British had 2 lieutenants, a second-master, 8 seamen, and 5 marines killed; a boatswain, 25 seamen, and 11 marines wounded: total, 16 killed, 37 wounded. The Russians had 63 killed, whilst many perished in attempting to reach the shore; and of the 127 prisoners taken, 51 were wounded.

On the 25th of July the boats of the 74-gun ships *Princess Caroline* and *Minotaur*, the *Cerberus* frigate, and *Prometheus* sloop, under command of captain Thomas Forrest of the latter, proceeded to the attack of four russian gun-boats and an armed brig lying at Fredericksham, near Apso roads, in the gulf of Finland. As soon as it became dark, the boats pushed off from the squadron, and at 10 h. 30 m. p.m. commenced the attack. After a desperate and sanguinary conflict, three of the gun-boats, each mounting two long eighteen-pounders, having among them 137 men, and an armed transport with 23 men, were captured and brought off. The british loss on this occasion was extremely severe: lieutenant John J. Callenan of the *Minotaur*, lieutenant William Wilkins of the marines, 1 midshipman, and 16 seamen and marines were killed; captain Forrest, 1 lieutenant, 3 midshipmen, and 46 seamen and marines wounded. The Russians had 28 killed, and 59 wounded. One of the gun-boats was so obstinately defended, that out of her crew of 44 men, 24 were killed, and every other man on board wounded. For the gallantry he had shown in leading this desperate service, captain Forrest was deservedly promoted to post rank.

Captain Edward Chamberlayne, of the 32-gun frigate *Solebay*, having, with major C. H. Maxwell of the African corps, concerted a plan for the reduction of Senegal, on the 4th of July a detachment of the garrison of Goree, consisting of 166 officers and men under the major's command, embarked on board a transport; and in company with the *Solebay*, 18-gun brig *Derwent*, 12-gun brig *Tigris*, and several smaller vessels, immediately got under way, and sailed from Goree.

On the 7th, in the evening, the expedition, amounting to fourteen sail of vessels, anchored off the bar of Senegal; and on the 8th, 160 of the african corps, with 50 marines under lieutenant Lewis Buckle Reeves, and 120 seamen, were got over the bar, through a very heavy surf; but this difficult service was unfortunately attended with some loss: captain Parker, of the *Derwent*, and some men were drowned, and two vessels wrecked in attempting the passage.

It was now discovered that the french force, consisting of 160 regulars and about 240 militia and volunteers, had assembled at Babagué, situated about five miles below the town of St. Louis, and ten above the bar. Major Maxwell, with the troops and marines, numbering altogether 210 men, landed without much opposition on the left bank of the river, and immediately took up a position with the intention of waiting until provisions could be passed from the shipping. On the 9th the French attacked the british force with very superior numbers, and their left was hardly pressed, when lieutenant Reeves with the marines gallantly attacked the enemy with the bayonet; and the british line advancing, drove their opponents before them for several miles until they got into their boats, after having sustained a severe loss, whilst the casualties on the part of the British were but trifling. The position to which the French had retired, consisted of a formidable line of defence at Babagué, a battery on the south point of an island, commanding the passage of the river, and this post was further defended by a chain secured to anchors on each shore, and floated

across the stream by large spars. In the rear of this boom lay a flotilla of seven armed vessels, mounting altogether 31 guns.

On the 11th the Solebay and Derwent took up a position close to the narrow neck of land that divides the river from the sea, and cannonaded the fort of Babagué with considerable effect; but in the course of the ensuing night, the frigate, in shifting her berth, went on shore, and became totally wrecked. The troops, having re-embarked on the 12th, moved up the river until within gun-shot of fort Babagué; and when every thing was in readiness for a night attack, the french commandant proposed to capitulate.

On the 13th Fort St. Louis surrendered, and the marines, with a detachment of the african corps, took possession. The object of the expedition being accomplished, captain Columbine, in the Derwent, sailed for England on the 23rd, leaving lieutenant Reeves with the marines, who continued seven months in Fort St. Louis, during which period nearly half the men fell a sacrifice to that pestilential climate.

CHAPTER III.

FROM MAY 1809, TO JANUARY 1811.

It will be recollected that in the year 1807 considerable naval preparations were making on the river Scheldt by order of Buonaparte: those arrangements were prosecuted with such vigour, that in the summer there were ten sail of the line anchored to the south-east of the Calot Sand, ready to put to sea. Finding there was not sufficient depth of water in the port of Antwerp to float an 80-gun ship with her guns and stores on board, Napoléon compelled his brother Louis, the king of Holland, to cede the port of Flushing to France; by this acquisition the emperor became entire master of the Scheldt, and possessed a basin capable of containing twenty sail of the line fully equipped. In addition to the ten sail of the line, that only waited for the absence of the british blockading force to put to sea, there were nine ships of the line on the stocks at Antwerp, and one at Flushing; two of these were ready to be launched, and several others were in a forward state.

Nothing could exceed the eligibility of the port of Antwerp for an arsenal of magnitude, as the resources for building, which were almost inexhaustible, might easily be conveyed thither from the Black Forest. There were already nineteen slips calculated for ships of the largest size; and some idea may be formed of the extensive operations in furthering this grand national undertaking, when it is stated, that previous to the year 1804 the site of the arsenal was occupied by 1500 houses, all of which Napoléon had removed, in order that he might carry on his ambitious projects against England; and since the summer

of 1805, the emperor had expended the sum of £2,640,000 sterling upon the fortifications and other works in the Scheldt.

Expedition to the Scheldt.

In the latter part of May, the british government projected an expedition against the french naval force in the Scheldt ; but it was not until the 28th of July that this immense armament sailed from the Downs. It consisted of thirty-seven sail of the line (four-fifths with the lower-deck guns out), two 50-gun ships, twenty-seven frigates, thirty-one sloops, and about one hundred and twenty hired cutters, gun-boats, etc. ; making in all two hundred and forty-five vessels of war, accompanied by four hundred transports : the fleet under the command of rear-admiral sir Richard Strachan, and 39,000 troops, including 3000 cavalry, commanded by lieutenant-general the earl of Chatham. The main object of the expedition was to capture or destroy the fleet, demolish the dock-yards and arsenals, and, if possible, to render the Scheldt no longer navigable for ships of war. To facilitate the passage up the western Scheldt, Cadzand, with the islands of Walcheren and Zuid Beveland, were to be occupied by divisions of the british troops.

In the evening of the 29th, and on the following morning, the whole force had anchored in safety between the islands of Noord Beveland and Schouwen, and nearly opposite the town of Zierkzee. A strong westerly gale sprang up on the 29th, which continuing on the 30th, the men-of-war and transports were compelled to seek shelter in the Roompot ; and in course of the forenoon the fleet anchored in the Veer Gat. In the mean time three divisions of the army had arrived in the Wieling passage, preparatory to the disembarkation of part of that force on the coast of Cadzand, whilst the remainder proceeded to attack the forts of Lillo and Liefkenshoeck, and finally of Antwerp. On the 30th the left wing landed on the Breed Zand, with a slight opposition ; and on the same evening the bomb-vessels and gun-boats proceeded up the Veer Gat. On the morning of the

31st a cannonade was opened upon the fort of Veer, garrisoned by 600 men, and mounting 38 guns. The firing, which continued until the evening, was returned with much spirit from the fort, and three gun-boats were sunk. In the course of the night several cases of congreve rockets were thrown into the town of Veer, which being closely invested by a division of troops under lieutenant-general Fraser, capitulated on the morning of the 1st of August. The army now moved forward towards Flushing, and on the surrender of Fort Rammekens on the 3rd, was enabled completely to invest the town. Meanwhile the division under lieutenant-general Hope had landed without opposition on the island of Zuid Beveland; and on the following night the important fortress of Bathz was evacuated by the enemy.

On the morning of the 29th, as soon as the signal-posts announced the appearance of the British off the coast, the french squadron, quitting their anchorage off the Calot, withdrew up the Scheldt; and a short time previous to the surrender of the fortress of Bathz, the whole of the enemy's ships had passed the boom of Lillo.

The surrender of Fort Rammekens having opened the passage of the Sloe channel, immediate measures were taken to get the flotilla that had acted against Veer into the western Scheldt; but the unfavourable state of the weather made it the 7th of August before the sea-blockade of Flushing, by means of the flotilla, could effectually be established. On the 10th the Beerlandt channel was sounded, and buoys placed to enable the larger ships to advance; and on the 11th, in the afternoon, a division of frigates under captain lord William Stuart, formed in line of battle a-head thus,—Lavinia, Heroine, Amethyst, Rota, Nymphen, Aigle, Euryalus, Statira, Dryad, and Perlen, forced the passage between the batteries of Flushing and Cadzand. Although, from the lightness of the wind and an adverse tide, the ships were exposed to the enemy's fire during two hours, no greater loss was sustained than 2 men killed and 9 wounded. On board the Aigle one marine was killed; lieutenant Henry

Loveday Vine of the marines, and 3 men were wounded. This ship was the only one of the ten frigates that sustained any material damage, which was occasioned by a shell that fell through the decks into the bread-room, and exploding there, shattered her stern frame considerably. On the 13th the batteries, mounting 52 pieces of heavy ordnance, and increased in the evening by 6 additional twenty-four pounders, opened a fire upon Flushing; at the same time the division of bomb and gun-vessels kept up an incessant cannonade.

Owing to the scantiness of the wind, the squadron under rear-admiral sir Richard Strachan could not get under way from the Deurloo passage until the 14th, at 10 A.M.; they then proceeded in the following order:—St. Domingo, Blake, Repulse, Victorious, Dannemark, Audacious, Venerable. Soon after the St. Domingo had opened her fire, she grounded on the inner edge of the Dog-bank, and the Blake, not aware of the accident that had befallen her leader, took the ground just inside her: the remaining ships then hauled off and anchored, when they were joined by the St. Domingo and Blake. At 4 P.M., the fire of the garrison having ceased, a summons was sent in; but no satisfactory answer being returned, the bombardment recommenced at night, and continued without intermission until 2 P.M. on the 15th, when general Monet offered to capitulate; and on the 16th the terms were ratified. The St. Domingo and Blake, from having grounded, were by far the most exposed, and the only ships of the squadron that suffered any loss, which amounted to only 2 men killed, and 18 wounded.

In the different skirmishes, the army had 103 killed, and 443 wounded; the navy 9 killed, and 55 wounded: making the total loss, up to the surrender of Flushing, 112 men killed, and 498 wounded.

On the 21st the earl of Chatham removed his head-quarters from Middleburg to Veer, and crossing the Sloe, arrived at the head-quarters of sir John Hope, at Goes, on the 23rd. The accumulating force at Cadzand made it necessary to leave as

many as 10,000 men in possession of Walcheren; consequently there were about 28,000 troops applicable to the remaining objects of the expedition.

It was now ascertained that the french forces in the forts of Lillo, Liefkenshoeck, Berg-op-zoom, and Antwerp, amounted to upwards of 35,000 men, and that the latter place had approaches which could be inundated, whilst it was strongly fortified with a citadel entirely commanding the arsenal and dock-yard: the ships of war with their guns on board could ascend some miles above the city; and being lightened, might retire to Dendermonde, a fortified town fifteen miles beyond it. At this time an alarming sickness prevailed in the british camp, which was probably occasioned by the inundation of the country by the French, who had cut a dike to the right of the town. These and other causes led to a council of war on the 26th, which determined on the immediate evacuation of Zuid Beveland; and by the 4th of September not a sail was to be seen in the road of Saeftingen. The island of Walcheren was still occupied by a division of the army, which was withdrawn in the month of December: the basin, arsenal, and sea-defences of Flushing having previously been blown up and destroyed, together with three vessels on the stocks.

Thus terminated this ill-fated expedition, which not only brought disgrace upon the british military character, but was the occasion of above 14,000 officers and men being visited with a malignant fever, of which nearly one-fourth part died, and scarcely one who survived but carried in his frame some unsubdued portion of the malady, some periodical ague-fit or rheumatic affection, forcing upon his recollection the share he had in that campaign, which, for the honour of the nation, it would be well were it buried in oblivion; for it appears, from the report of the examination before the House of Commons, the earl of Chatham admitted, that at the time of his departure from England he did not know to what extent Antwerp was fortified, that the citadel commanded the dock-yard; nor, in

short, any thing of the place he was going to attack ! The expedition, moreover, was ill-timed, because the sickly season had actually commenced before the armament sailed from the Downs ; and ill-executed, as evinced by the tardiness of the military commander-in-chief.

A battalion was formed by detachments of marines from the fleet, and served at Fort Veer, in the island of Walcheren, during the months of August and September, consisting of 706 rank and file, under the following officers :—

Captain Frederic Liardet, commandant.

Captains—R. P. Boys, F. Wemyss, W. B. M'Millan, F. Hole, T. M. Bagnold, R. Clarke, R. Owen, J. Parry, and W. S. Carruthers.

First-lieutenants—T. Reeves, H. Perham, Donald Campbell.

Second-lieutenants—J. T. Tucker, A. Thwaites, J. E. H. Missing, F. Graham, W. Haig, R. Barry, G. Magill, C. Clapperton, R. Edwards, J. Yates, E. J. Milburne, J. W. Bullock, K. S. Parker, James Flaxman, P. Dusanoy, and George B. Puddicombe.

Adjutant, Donald Campbell. Acting-paymaster, K. S. Parker. Quarter-master, James Flaxman.

The following is an extract from the battalion orders of the 30th of August, 1809 :—

“ The commanding officer is desirous of communicating to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the Royal Marine battalion, that lieutenant-general sir Eyre Coote has expressed the highest approbation of their soldier-like conduct during their being on duty in the garrison of Terveer.

“ The commanding officer thinks it a duty incumbent upon him to avail himself of this opportunity of returning to the officers his warmest thanks for their strict attention to their duty ; and he highly approves of the steady conduct of the non-commissioned officers and privates while under his command.

(Signed) **FREDERIC LIARDET, Capt.**
COMMANDANT.”

SIR, " H. M. S. *St. Domingo*, 12th Sept. 1809.

I have the honour to be, sir, with the greatest esteem,
Your very humble servant,

*"To Captain Liardet,
&c. &c.*

Having yesterday observed the gallant conduct of the gun-vessels, in closing with the battery off Doel, and aiding the bombs Hound, Thunder, and Ætna in silencing it, I request you will make known to captain Carteret, who commanded the gun-vessels, and to captains Janverin, Lyford, Lowe, Abercorn, and Buck, commanding divisions under him, and to the officers of the Royal Marines and seamen, that I admire and approve of their heroic conduct upon this, as well as upon all occasions when under the fire of the enemy. I request

you to inform captains Lockyer, Lawless, and Bowker, who commanded the bombs, that I am much pleased with the skilful manner in which those vessels were generally placed; and to assure the officers of the Royal Marine Artillery serving on board them, I had much pleasure in observing the precision and judgment with which the shells were thrown, which does the officers directing the mortars infinite credit.

I havethe honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

RICHARD J. STRACHAN."

*" To Captain Cockburn,
commanding the Flotilla."*

In the early part of May, the 64-gun ship *Standard*, captain A. P. Hollis, with the 36-gun frigate *Glendower*, three sloops, and a brig, were detached from the british squadron in the Baltic by vice-admiral sir James Saumarez, to effect the reduction of the island of Anholt. On the 18th the marines, amounting to 120 rank and file under captain Edward Nicolls, with lieutenants Robert Henry and R. G. Atkinson, embarked in the boats of the squadron; and whilst the ships cannonaded the battery on the south beach, the detachment landed about three miles to the south-east of them, but owing to the heavy surf the boats were swamped, and the men's ammunition consequently destroyed. Notwithstanding these obstacles the attack was persevered in, and the never-failing alternative of british soldiers—the bayonet, accomplished all that could have been desired; for the party, dashing forward, captured a field-piece, which had kept up a galling fire; and then pursuing a force, consisting of about 200 men, right into the light-house, compelled them to haul down the danish colours. Soon afterwards the battery that had annoyed the *Standard* was silenced, and the garrison, amounting to 250 men of the king of Denmark's regiment, and 300 well-organized militia, surrendered at discretion. The loss of the British was confined to one corporal killed, and two privates wounded.

A reinforcement of marines under captain Peter Jones, from the ships in the offing, had been ordered to support captain Nicolls; but as they did not arrive until the island was in quiet possession, that gallant officer, assuming the authority with which he had been furnished in anticipation of success, dispensed with any further assistance from the marines and seamen sent to co-operate with him in this enterprise, and they returned to the squadron.

Having been confirmed in his appointment as governor of Anholt, captain Nicolls was indefatigable in his exertions to put the island in a proper state of defence; and during the absence of the british fleet in the winter months, the boats belonging to the island captured fifteen sail of laden vessels. On the return of the squadron to the Baltic in 1810, the governor was honoured by receiving a letter of thanks from the commander-in-chief on the station; but notwithstanding this flattering mark of approval, the board of Admiralty thought proper to remove captain Nicolls from his command, to make room for a naval officer, and the island of Anholt was henceforward placed on the establishment of a 50-gun ship.

On the 14th of April a division of british troops, under major-general F. Maitland, gained possession of the Saintes islands, near Guadaloupe; and having posted themselves on Morne Russel, which completely commanded the harbour, a fire was opened upon the french 74-gun ships *Courageux*, *Polonais*, and *d'Hauptoult*, that compelled them to put to sea. They were discovered at 10 P.M. by the 74-gun ship *Pompée*, captain W. C. Fahie, who endeavoured to stop the progress of the sternmost by the discharge of two broadsides; but having a strong breeze in their favour, the french ships continued their course to the westward without returning a shot. At 10 h. 15 m. the *Recruit* brig opened a fire upon the enemy, and on the 15th captain Charles Napier again very gallantly renewed the attack, and received a fire from the *d'Hauptoult* which wounded the serjeant of marines. The 74-gun ship *Neptune*

had now joined in the chase, and at 8 h. P.M. the french ships separated, the d'Hauvout altering her course to north-west. The *Pompée* immediately hauled up after that ship, and on the 16th, at daylight, the d'Hauvout was about three miles distant. In the course of the forenoon the *Latona* and *Castor* frigates took part in the pursuit, and on the 17th the latter very gallantly brought the french ship to action, which enabled the *Pompée* at 4 A.M., to close with the d'Hauvout until 5 h. 15 m. A.M.; the french ship then ranged a-head, and continued engaging the *Castor* until the *Pompée* was again in a position to discharge her broadside with effect; when the d'Hauvout, being a complete wreck in rigging and sails, lowered her top-sails and surrendered. The *Pompée* had 9 killed; her captain, first-lieutenant, lieutenant of marines Charles Edward Atkins, 22 seamen, and 5 marines wounded. Captain Charles Napier was deservedly promoted to the command of the prize, which was commissioned under the name of *Abercromby*.

On the 23rd of April the 38-gun frigate *Spartan*, captain J. Brenton, with the 32-gun frigate *Amphion*, and 28-gun frigate *Mercury*, cruising off the town of Pesaro, in the gulf of Venice, anchored within a mile and a half of the town, in order to cover an intended attack by the boats of the squadron on a number of vessels lying in the mole. Having made the necessary preparations, captain Brenton sent a summons to the governor of the town, demanding the surrender of all the vessels. Not receiving a reply to this proposal, the ships, with the boats, opened their fire upon the town; but at 30 m. past noon, the enemy having hung out several flags of truce, the squadron ceased firing, and lieutenant G. W. Willes of the *Spartan* pulled into the harbour, where he was informed that the commandant had withdrawn, with all the military. The marines of the frigates, under lieutenant Thomas Moore, accompanied by lieutenants James Whylock, Charles Fegan, and Christopher Fotterell, were immediately landed to protect the boats, as they boarded and brought out thirteen vessels deeply laden. At 7 P.M. the castle at the en-

trance of the harbour was blown up, under the direction of lieutenant Willes, and the British returned to their ships without a casualty.

On the 2nd of May the Spartan, having chased two vessels into the harbour of Cesenatico, the narrow entrance of which was defended by two twenty-four pounders and a castle; and observing several other vessels also lying there, captain Brenton determined to attempt their capture. About noon the Spartan and Mercury anchored sufficiently near to open their broadsides effectually, and silenced the battery. The boats then pushed off, and having taken possession of the fort, turned the guns upon the castle and the town, which were soon deserted. Twelve vessels were brought off, the castle and magazine blown up, and the guns spiked.

On the 12th of March, at 6 h. 30 m. A.M., the 36-gun frigate Topaze, captain A. J. Griffiths, cruising off the island of Anti-Paxo, in the Adriatic, in company with the 18-gun brig Kingfisher, discovered the two french 40-gun frigates Danaé and Flore, and immediately bore away in chase. At 2 h. 10 m. P.M. she was sufficiently near to exchange broadsides with the two frigates while passing on opposite tacks, and at 3 h. 30 m. the frigates, while crossing each other, again engaged as before. The firing recommenced at 4 h. 30 m., and continued as they passed on opposite tacks until 5 h. P.M.; when the Danaé and Flore tacked out of gun-shot, and stood up the passage to Corfu under all sail, leaving to a single british frigate the credit of compelling them to withdraw; for at this period the Kingfisher was six or seven miles to leeward.

On the 31st of May, when cruising off the coast of Albania, the Topaze observed nine vessels anchored in the road of Der-nata, situated behind the rocks, under the fortress of Santa Maura. The boats were soon despatched to attempt their capture, under the orders of lieutenant Charles Hammond, assisted by lieutenants Edward Smith Mercer and William Halstead of the marines, and other officers. Having to row along the outer

edge of the reef, the boats were exposed to a galling fire of musketry, and again as they pulled round it; nevertheless, they pushed gallantly on, boarded, and brought out the whole nine vessels, with the comparatively trifling loss of one marine killed, and one seaman wounded. Among the captured vessels were a xebec of eight carriage-guns, six swivels, and 25 men, a cutter of four guns, a felucca mounting three guns, and two gun-boats of one gun each.

Rear-admiral Martin, in the *Canopus* 80, with the 74-gun ships *Spartiate* and *Warrior*, 22-gun ship *Cyane*, captain Thomas Staines, and 18-gun brig *Espoir*, accompanied by a numerous flotilla of british and sicilian gun-boats, and a fleet of transports with troops, anchored on the 24th of June to the northward of the islands of Ischia and Procida, preparatory to an attack upon them. In the course of the evening the *Cyane*, *Espoir*, and twelve gun-boats were detached to the southward, to prevent supplies or reinforcements being thrown into the islands from the main. On the 25th, at 8 h. A.M., when lying at anchor two miles to the south-east of Procida in company with the gun-boats, the *Cyane* and *Espoir* discovered the french 40-gun frigate *Cérés*, 30-gun corvette *Fama*, and several gun-boats coming out of Pozzuoli bay. The british squadron immediately got under way with a light air from the north-east, and having sufficiently approached the enemy, at 8 h. 30 m. fired several broadsides at the french frigate and her consorts, which they returned, and then stood in for the land. At 9 h. 40 m. the firing ceased, with no great effect on either side; and the *Cyane* and consorts, after cruising all day between Procida and the main, re-anchored off the island at 9 P.M. On the same day Procida surrendered, as did Ischia on the following morning, with the exception of a castle on the south-east point of land, which did not capitulate until some days afterwards.

On the 26th, at 6 h. 25 m. A.M., the *Cyane*, *Espoir*, and gun-boats began engaging the enemy's flotilla just as they rounded

the point of Baia; and by the prompt and vigorous attack made upon them and the batteries, the british and sicilian gun-boats were enabled to bring their opponents to close action; and before 10 A.M. to capture eighteen, and destroy four, french gun-boats. In this smart affair the Cyane received twenty-three shot in her hull, was much cut up in her masts and rigging, and she had two killed; a master's mate (mortally), and 6 men wounded. At 7 P.M. the Cyane and Espoir, accompanied by twenty-three sicilian gun-boats, stood into Pozzuoli bay, where the Cérès, Fama, and twelve gun-boats were lying at anchor. At 8 A.M. on the 27th the british frigate was becalmed within reach of a battery of 4 guns, which, having opened with some effect, captain Staines, leading the boats to the attack, gallantly carried; and having spiked the 4 thirty-six pounders, destroyed the carriages, and thrown a ten-inch mortar into the sea, he returned to the ship without a casualty.

The Cyane and Espoir were lying becalmed in the offing at 5 P.M., when the Cérès, Fama, and twenty gun-boats weighed and put to sea, bound to Naples. The british vessels made all sail, and at 6 h. 50 m. the Cyane, being considerably a-head of the Espoir and the sicilian gun-boats; and observing that the french frigate was nearly a mile and a-half astern of the corvette, and about the same distance from the french gun-boats, the Cyane manned her sweeps and stood towards the Cérès, then not more than three miles from the mole of Naples. At 7 h. 20 m. the Cyane, having arrived within pistol-shot of the frigate, opened her fire upon her, which she instantly returned, assisted occasionally by the corvette, the gun-boats, and batteries of Naples; and shortly afterwards a reinforcement of men was conveyed to the frigate from the shore. Notwithstanding this assistance, the Cérès at 7 h. 45 m. hauled down her colours, but rehoisted them on obtaining a second reinforcement of men from Naples. At 8 h. 25 m. the fire of the french frigate slackened considerably, and at 8 h. 30 m. it entirely ceased. At this time the Cyane had nearly expended all her powder, and was so

completely riddled in her sails and rigging, that it became necessary to haul off from the shore, being then within a mile and a-half of the mole-head of Naples: she had received forty-five round shot in her hull, and her loss amounted to 1 seaman and 1 marine killed; the captain and first-lieutenant (dangerously), her second-lieutenant, 1 midshipman, 11 seamen, and 4 marines wounded.

The *Espoir*, who had some share in the latter part of the engagement, sent the gun-boats to the *Cyane*'s assistance, and they towed their crippled consort out of the bay. The officer of marines serving on board the *Cyane* in this very gallant service, as well as the several other enterprises in which that ship had borne a conspicuous part, was lieutenant William Stuart.

On the 24th of August the 32-gun frigate *Amphion*, captain William Hoste, discovered in the port of Cortelazzo, between Venice and Trieste, six french gun-boats and a convoy of merchant trabaccolos, moored in a strong position, under a battery of 4 twenty-four pounders at the mouth of the river Piavie. To prevent suspicion, the *Amphion* stood out of sight of land until the evening of the 26th; then crowding all sail towards the shore, she anchored off the entrance of the Piavie at 1 A.M. on the 27th.

At 3 A.M. a detachment of seamen commanded by lieutenant Phillott, and the marines under lieutenant Thomas Moore, landed about a mile to the southward of the battery, whilst lieutenant Slaughter with the boats was ready to push forward the instant the battery was carried. At 3 h. 15 m. A.M., the alarm having been given, the fort was immediately attacked; and so vigorous was the assault, that although surrounded by a ditch and *chevaux-de-frise*, the post was stormed, and in less than ten minutes in possession of the British. The 4 twenty-four pounders were then turned upon the gun-boats, which were also attacked by a sharp fire from the marines under lieutenant Moore: thus assailed, they were carried by the *Amphion*'s boats, after a slight opposition; two trabaccolos were also cap-

tured and five burnt. Having spiked the guns, and totally destroyed the battery with the barrack adjacent, the detachment re-embarked at 1 P.M., with so slight a loss as one marine wounded by the explosion of the fort. Captain Hoste, in his letter, observes,—“The judicious disposition of the marines by lieutenant Moore, is highly praiseworthy. In the variety of boat service we have had, these officers have particularly distinguished themselves, and some time back both severely wounded.”

On the 28th of May the 74-gun ship *Excellent*, captain John West, observing an enemy's convoy standing along shore towards Trieste, immediately stood in, anchoring as close as safety would admit, to cut them off; and thus compelled the convoy, consisting of six gun-boats and several vessels laden with grain, to take refuge in the harbour of Duin, a port four leagues north-west of Trieste. Conceiving it practicable to capture or destroy them, captain West detached the *Acorn* and *Bustard* sloops, with all the boats of the *Excellent* under the direction of lieutenant John Harper, to make the attempt. A party of marines under captain Cummings landed, and by keeping the enemy in check, prevented any annoyance from the rugged precipices surrounding the port; whilst the other boats, led by lieutenant Smith, who was assisted by lieutenant Thomas How of the marines, Mr. W. Prowse, midshipman, and some other officers, pulled for the gun-boats. About midnight they had approached within grape-shot, when the enemy opened a heavy fire, but the British, instantly cheering, dashed alongside; and although lying moored under the protection of the fire of a castle and the pier-head lined with musketry, the six gun-boats were gallantly carried, and, together with ten laden trabacolos, safely brought out. The loss on the part of the British was so comparatively small as 3 men killed, and 4 wounded.

On the return of lieutenant Thomas How to head-quarters, he was particularly recommended by lieutenant-general Bell, commandant of the Chatham division, to the notice of Mr.

Yorke, then first lord of the Admiralty, reminding him that lord Collingwood had recommended lieutenant How to the favourable consideration of their lordships, for his heroic defence of Fort Trinidad in November 1808. No notice was however taken of this application, nor was the gallant officer more fortunate in his appeal to lord Melville, the successor of Mr. Yorke.

After the reduction of the corps in 1814, lieutenant How, despairing of obtaining redress from those to whom he had a right to look for protection, reluctantly quitted the profession in which he had served with so much honour. At length, a patriotic nobleman advocated the claims of this deserving officer, and we have the gratification of annexing an extract of a letter from the duke of Northumberland, announcing the appointment of Mr. How to a situation in the customs, with a salary of £400 per annum.

“Your meritorious services in the marines justly entitle you to expect some little mark of the approbation of your Sovereign, and I am happy that I at last got the better of *all the impediments which were endeavoured to be flung in the way of your appointment*; but I was compelled, in order to carry my point, to apply to the Prince Regent himself, in person, and lay before his royal highness the different documents in your favour. This had the desired success, and it was by his own immediate command that the appointment was given to you.

Accept my congratulations upon the occasion,

And believe me your sincere friend,

(Signed)

NORTHUMBERLAND.

*Lieutenant Thomas How,
Royal Marines.”*

On the 7th of September the boats of the 28-gun frigate Mercury, under the orders of lieutenant W. O. Pell, assisted by several officers, including lieutenant James Whylock of the marines, entered the harbour of Barletta, near Manfredonia,


where they boarded and carried the french national schooner *Puglièse*, mounting 5 six, and 2 eighteen-pounders, with 31 men on board, lying close to the mole, which was lined with musketry, and within musket-shot of a castle mounting 8 guns. Although the *Puglièse* was towed out under a fire from the batteries, not a man was hurt of the attacking party.

On the 12th of December the marines of the 38-gun frigate *Thetis*; *Pultusk*, *Achates*, and *Attentive* brigs, and *Bacchus* schooner, under lieutenants John Godfrey Ruel and Jervis Cooke, were sent with a party of seamen in the boats, under the orders of captain Elliott of the *Pultusk*, to attempt the capture of the french 16-gun brig *Nisus*, anchored in the harbour of Hayes, Guadeloupe, under the protection of a fort. In the evening the party landed without opposition, and proceeded with considerable difficulty through a thick wood and over a high hill, until they reached the rear of the fort; which they attacked with great gallantry, and compelled the french garrison, amounting to 300 men, to retreat. Leaving a division of men to dismantle and destroy the battery, captain Elliott, supported by the squadron, boarded and carried the french brig. The loss on the part of the British was only four men wounded.

Commodore Josias Rowley, commanding the british forces cruising off the Isle of France, and lieutenant-colonel H. Keating, commanding the troops at the adjacent small island of Rodriquez, having concerted a plan for attacking the harbour or bay of St. Paul, Isle of Bourbon, by first carrying the batteries, and then the shipping lying in the road, on the 16th of September 368 officers and men embarked at Fort Duncan, in the island of Rodriquez, on board the 36-gun frigate *Néréide*, *Otter* sloop, and a schooner. When off Port Louis, on the 18th, the commodore in the *Raisable* 64, the 36-gun frigate *Sirius*, captain Pym, and 38-gun frigate *Boadicea*, joined the expedition; and early on the following morning 100 seamen and 136 marines, forming with the troops already mentioned 604 officers and men, were put on board the *Néréide*. In the

evening the squadron stood towards Bourbon, and on the following morning arrived off the east-end of the island.

On the 21st, at 5 A.M., the ships anchored close to the beach, and the troops were disembarked a little to the southward of Point du Galet, distant about seven miles from St. Paul; accompanied by the seamen under captain Willoughby, they immediately moved forward to get across the causeways that extend over the lake, before the French could be apprized of their approach. This important object was fully accomplished, and the British passed the strongest position before the enemy had time to form in any force to oppose them. By 7 A.M. the troops were in possession of the batteries of Lambousière and La Centière; and captain Willoughby with his detachment of seamen immediately turned the guns upon the shipping, from whose well-directed fire, within pistol-shot of the shore, the troops had suffered considerably. A detachment from the battery of La Centière took possession of a third battery, that of La Neuve, whence the British immediately opened a fire upon the Caroline frigate, and the other shipping in the road. The fourth and fifth batteries were soon gained, and by 8 h. 30 m. A.M. the town and its dependencies, with eight field-pieces, 117 new and heavy guns of different calibres, and all the public stores, were in possession of the british troops. In the mean time the squadron had stood into the bay, and commenced a smart cannonade upon the french frigate, the two captured Indiamen, and other armed vessels in her company; also upon those batteries which, owing to their distance from the point of attack, were enabled to continue their fire. As the british squadron came to an anchor close off the town of St. Paul, the Caroline and the rest of the french ships cut their cables and drifted on shore; but they were afterwards got off without sustaining any material injury. Thus was effected, in the course of a few hours, by a small british force, the capture of the only safe anchorage at Isle Bourbon, with its strong defences and shipping. The loss sustained by the navy amounted to 2



seamen killed; lieutenant Edward Lloyd of the *Raisable*, and 2 seamen wounded, and 1 missing. Of the troops 8 were killed, 40 wounded, and 2 missing. The marines had 5 killed; lieutenants Thomas Robert Pye and Matthew Howden (the latter mortally), and 13 wounded. Total loss, 15 killed, 58 wounded, and 3 missing. The captured ships were the french 40-gun frigate *Caroline*, the 14-gun brig *Grappler*, *Streatham* and *Europe* indiamen, and six smaller vessels. By evening the demolition of the different batteries was complete, and the whole of the troops and seamen returned on board their respective ships.

On the 22nd, in the evening, the appearance of a fresh force collecting on the hills, induced the commodore to reland the marines, with a few seamen under captain Willoughby, when an extensive government store, containing all the raw silk which had been landed from the Indiamen, and of the value of more than half a-million sterling, was destroyed. This service effected, the detachment re-embarked without incurring the slightest casualty.

On the 23rd, at day-break, the troops and marines were in the boats, ready again to land, when it was discovered that the governor of Bourbon in the course of the night had retreated across the island to St. Denis. The commandant of the town now proposed to negotiate for the delivery of all public property to the British, and terms were accordingly drawn up; but general Des-brusleys, the governor, having shot himself through chagrin at the loss of the colony, the armistice was prolonged for five days. On the 28th, the truce having expired, the troops and seamen were employed embarking the various kinds of stores, and the captured shipping having been refitted, commodore Rowley withdrew the whole british force, and made sail from the bay of St. Paul.


In December lieutenant Thomas Moore, with 30 marines, landed at Gillio Nuovo from the 32-gun frigate *Amphion*, captain William Hoste, to cover the boats of that ship in

bringing out some vessels that had run on shore, and were under the protection of more than 300 militia and a detachment of troops of the line, with one field-piece. Lieutenant Moore and his small party gallantly attacked this force with the bayonet, and having dispersed them, the vessels were safely brought off.

On the 13th December, at 1 P.M., the 38-gun frigate Junon, captain John Shortland, in company with the 18-gun brig Observateur, were in latitude 17° 18' north, and longitude 57° west, when four large ships were discovered to leeward. These were the french 40-gun frigates Renommée and Clorinde, with the 40-gun frigates Loire and Seine, *armées en flûte*, each mounting 20 guns, laden with troops and military stores for Guadaloupe. The Junon and the brig immediately bore away in chase, and at 5 P.M., having made the private signal, the french squadron hoisted spanish colours, but showed no disposition to bring to.

The british frigate still bearing down, made the spanish private signal, which being consistently replied to by the Renommée, the Junon, thus deceived, continued to approach the four french frigates, until the latter, at 5 h. 30 m. P.M., hauled their wind in order of battle on the larboard tack. The Junon immediately shortened sail, and when about a quarter of a mile to windward of the french squadron, the Renommée, who was the leading ship, hauled down the spanish, and hoisting french colours, poured a destructive broadside into the starboard bow of the british frigate. Finding it impossible to effect her escape to windward, the Junon ran under the stern of the Renommée and raked her. The Observateur at the same time discharged her starboard broadside at the french frigate's bows, but at too great a distance to do any execution. In the mean time the Clorinde, the second astern to the french commodore, having hauled close to the wind, ran nearly foul of the Junon on her starboard side. A spirited cannonade ensued for about ten minutes, when the Renommée, who had wore round, ran foul of the Junon on her larboard side. The Seine and Loire had placed themselves

a-head and astern of the british frigate, and the troops on board of each, particularly of the Loire, (who lay with her bowsprit over the Junon's larboard quarter,) kept up a destructive fire of musketry. About this time captain Shortland had his leg broken by a grape-shot, and the command devolved on lieutenant S. B. Decker. The Clorinde now attempted to board the Junon on the starboard quarter, but was repulsed by a few men gallantly led on by lieutenant John Green of the marines, who nobly fell in the struggle. The Junon, dropping her foresail, shot a-head clear of her opponents ; but the latter soon regained their position, and boarding the british frigate simultaneously, one on each side, took possession of the nobly defended Junon, who had fought her four formidable opponents more than forty-five minutes, and the two frigates of her own force yard-arm and yard-arm nearly the whole time. The Junon was so shattered, that her captors, despairing of getting her into port, quickly removed the prisoners and set her on fire. Out of her crew of 224 men, she had 20 killed and 40 wounded. The loss on board the french frigates, as stated by captain Roquebert of the Renommée, amounted to 21 killed and 18 wounded. The Observateur, who had hauled her wind as soon as she saw what would be the probable fate of the Junon, arrived off Basse-terre, Guadeloupe, on the 15th, and having communicated to captain V. V. Ballard the approach of the enemy, the 38-gun frigate Blonde, accompanied by the 38-gun frigate Thetis, with the Hazard and Cygnet sloops, made all sail for the channel between the Saintes and Guadeloupe, where they were joined by the 32-gun frigate Castor, with Scorpion and Ringdove sloops. At daylight on the 17th the Blonde and squadron, when nearly abreast of Basse-terre, descried two strange ships to the northward. These were the Seine and Loire, who had separated from the Renommée and Clorinde on the 15th, and were now making the best of their way to Basse-terre. Perceiving themselves pursued by the british squadron, they entered a cove named Anse la Barque, situated about three leagues to the north-west of Basse-terre, where



they anchored at 10 A.M. with their broadsides to the sea, and protected by a battery on each side of the inlet. At 2 h. 40 m. captain Dowers, of the Ringdove, landed with a party, stormed a fort which had annoyed the squadron, spiked the guns, and destroyed the works.

On the 18th, the 74-gun ship *Sceptre*, captain S. J. Ballard, with the 36-gun frigate *Freija*, having joined company, orders were given for an immediate attack upon the french frigates. The *Blonde* and *Thetis* were to lead in, but owing to the light winds they did not reach their position until nearly 3 P.M., when, being within half pistol-shot of the fort, and about a quarter of a mile from the frigates, the *Blonde* anchored with springs, and opened her starboard broadside. At 3 h. 20 m. P.M. the *Thetis*, having also anchored, joined in the cannonade; and in another ten minutes the northern-most french frigate, after losing her three masts, hauled down the french colours. The action continued until 4 h. 20 m. P.M., when the other frigate also surrendered, and both ships were eventually destroyed.

Captain Hugh Cameron of the *Hazard*, after being wounded in the act of hauling down the french colours from a fort which had been stormed by the party under his command, was unfortunately killed when stepping into the boat to return to his ship. The *Blonde* had one lieutenant, a master's mate, and 6 killed; one lieutenant and 14 men wounded. The *Thetis* 6 seamen wounded.

1810.

On the 18th of January, the boats of the 32-gun frigate *Amphion* attacked a convoy in the port of Besiglio, in the Adriatic, and the marines under lieutenant Thomas Moore having landed to the left of the mole, advanced in the most gallant manner, took the castle, and destroyed the guns. In the mean while the boats succeeded in capturing six vessels, which were safely brought out.

Captain Hoste, in speaking of this affair, observes,—“The

marines were led on with their usual gallantry by lieutenant Moore, whom I have had frequent occasion to mention for his bravery and conduct."

On the 27th of March an attack was made on the tower and batteries of Umago, on the coast of Istria. Lieutenant Moore with the marines having landed to the right of the town, defeated a very superior force of the enemy's troops : several vessels were destroyed, and some brought out.

Very early in the morning of the 9th of February, the french 40-gun frigate *Néréide*, captain Lemareshquier, arrived off Basse-terre, Guadeloupe, not aware of the island being in possession of the British ; and as soon as she was discovered, was chased by a squadron consisting of the 74-gun ship *Alfred*, three frigates, and a brig. The pursuit continued until 8 P.M. on the 10th, when the *Néréide*, having lost sight of the enemy, hauled to the northward, intending to make her voyage back by the windward passage, or that between the islands of St. Domingo and Cuba. On the 13th, at daylight, when within ten leagues of Pointe Abacou, St. Domingo, she fell in with the 22-gun ship *Rainbow*, captain James Wooldridge, who immediately gave chase, and at 8 h. 30 m. the french frigate brought to for a short time to reconnoitre, and then bore away under all sail. The pursuit continued during the day and through the night ; and at 4 h. A.M. on the 14th, when the *Rainbow* was within a mile of the *Néréide*, she exchanged numbers with the 18-gun brig *Avon*, then about six miles north-west by north, off Cape Tiburon, and consequently to leeward of both ships. At 1 h. 15 m. P.M. the *Néréide* commenced firing her stern guns, and having gradually hauled to the southward, at 3 h. 30 m. opened her broadside upon the *Rainbow*, who hauling up also, became warmly engaged with her powerful adversary until 4 P.M. ; the *Avon* having now closed, raked the *Néréide*, who by her heavy fire had so disabled the *Rainbow*, that at 4 h. 5 m. the french frigate wore, and engaged the brig until 5 P.M. ; when having reduced her to even a worse condition than her first opponent,

the french frigate bore away under courses, top-sails, and top-gallant sails.

The Rainbow suffered considerably in her masts and rigging, but owing to the high firing of her antagonist, her loss, out of a crew of 156 men and boys, was so comparatively slight as 10 men wounded. The Avon had 2 men killed ; a lieutenant, a mid-shipman, and 5 men severely wounded. Lieutenant John Hewes was serving on board the Rainbow in this smart affair.

In the early part of February an expedition was formed for an attack on the dutch Molucca islands, and entrusted by rear-admiral W. O'Brien Drury to the command of captain Edward Tucker, in the 38-gun frigate Dover ; and on the 9th that ship, with the 44-gun frigate Cornwallis and 18-gun sloop Samarang, anchored in Lætitia bay, in the island of Amboyna, to examine the defences of the place. The castle of Victoria and the batteries adjoining mounted together 215 pieces of cannon of different calibres, with a strong sea-face ; to the right of the fort was the Waggoo battery of 8 guns, and another, mounting 9 long twelve-pounders, extending out to the sea on piles. There were also two batteries on the heights ; one named Wannatoo, mounted with 9 guns and 2 howitzers, and the other Batto Gautong, mounting 5 guns, both of which commanded the town of Amboyna, with the castle and anchorage of Victoria and that of Portuguese bay. The several forts were garrisoned by 130 European, and upwards of 2000 javanese and mandurese troops, exclusive of above 200 seamen. On the 16th, at 2 P.M., the ships weighed and stood across the bay, having the boats on the side not seen by the enemy. Upon a nearer approach, the three bore up together with a fine breeze, and passing within a cable's length of the landing-place, slipped all the boats at the same moment. A fire was then opened, and a smart cannonade was kept up between the ships and the batteries. The party in the boats, consisting of a detachment of 46 officers and men of the honourable company's artillery, 130 officers and privates of the Madras regiment, and 225 officers,

seamen, and marines belonging to the ships,—in all 401 men, under captain Major Henry Court, having landed without opposition, an immediate attack was made upon the battery at Wannatoo by 180 men under captain Phillips of the Madras regiment, which after a determined resistance was carried, with a loss to the garrison of two officers killed, and one desperately wounded.

Captain Court, with the remaining force, then proceeded along the heights to turn the enemy's position at Batto Gautong, and after a fatiguing march over very steep hills, the British, a little after sunset, reached an eminence that commanded the battery; whereupon the enemy, after spiking the guns, retreated, and the fort of Batto Gautong was entered without opposition.

The ships and batteries continued the cannonade for two hours and a half, and then the former, taking advantage of a breeze off the land, anchored in Portuguese bay. During the night 40 seamen were landed with two field-pieces, which with much exertion were dragged to the heights; and these, with some guns in Battoo Gautong that had been unspiked, were brought to bear on Fort Victoria on the following day, when the enemy were driven from the Wagoo and the water battery, and were finally compelled to capitulate for the surrender of the whole island of Amboyna.

This important capture was effected with the loss to the British of only 2 privates of the Madras regiment, 1 marine, and 1 seaman killed; 1 lieutenant of artillery, 5 soldiers, and 4 seamen wounded.

On the 17th of January the 36-gun frigate *Freija*, captain John Hayes, cruising off Guadaloupe, obtained information of some vessels being at anchor in Baie Mahaut, situated on the north side of the neck of land connecting Basse-terre with Grande-terre; and on the 21st, after two days' search in a most intricate navigation, the frigate discovered three vessels lying at anchor. At 9 h. 15 m. p. m. four boats, containing 50 seamen and 30 marines, under the direction of lieutenant David Hope,

assisted by lieutenant John Shillibeer of the marines, and other officers, pushed off from the frigate. At a few minutes past 11 P.M., after experiencing much difficulty in finding the passage, lieutenant Hope detained a fisherman, from whom he learnt that a troop of cavalry and a company of native infantry had arrived at Baie Mahaut that evening from Pointe à Pitre. Undismayed by this information the boats moved immediately forward, and as soon as they arrived within gun-shot, a signal-gun was fired, which was quickly followed by a discharge of grape from a battery on the north-east point, and from another at the head of the bay; while a brig, which had her six guns mounted on one side, also opened upon the boats. In the face of this heavy fire the boats pulled alongside, and as the British boarded on one quarter, the enemy fled from her on the other. Leaving an officer and a few hands in charge of the brig to cover the landing, lieutenant Hope pushed for the shore; but the boats grounded at so great a distance, that the officers and men had to wade up to their middle to get to the beach. Dashing instantly forward, the British drove the enemy from the first battery; and then closing with the bayonet, the marines compelled them to abandon a position they had taken in rear of a brick breast-work. Having thrown a twenty-four pounder over the cliff, and buried six howitzers in the sand, the party again advanced and carried a battery mounting 3 twenty-four pounders, having a ditch all round, with a small bridge and a gateway entrance. After destroying the guard-house and spiking the guns, lieutenant Hope and his party returned to the brig, and by great exertions got her afloat. Near to the brig a large english ship under repair, and a national schooner pierced for 16 guns (having twelve on board), lay fast aground; as these vessels could not be got afloat, they were destroyed, and the brig was safely brought out. This gallant service was performed with the slight loss of 2 seamen wounded.

Lieutenant Hope, in his official report of this exploit, parti-

cularly notices the gallant manner in which lieutenant Shillibeer led the marines to the charge, as well as their steady discipline in keeping possession of the heights while the seamen were destroying the batteries.

On the 13th of February, three boats from the 80-gun ship *Christian the Seventh*, captain sir Joseph Yorke, three from the 38-gun frigate *Armide*, and two from the 32-gun frigate *Seine*, were detached from these ships, lying at anchor in Basque roads, under the orders of lieutenant G. H. Guion, for the purpose of destroying three laden *chasse-marées*, grounded on the reef which projects from the point of Chatelaillon, between Aix and Rochelle. As the eight boats advanced towards the grounded vessels, nine french gun-boats, each carrying a twelve-pounder carronade and six swivels, rowing from twenty to thirty oars, pulled out to meet the british division, and prevent them from fulfilling their object. Lieutenant Guion made a feint of retreating, to decoy the french boats from their shore defences, and this having produced the desired effect, they came on cheering in pursuit, until the headmost boat had arrived within pistol-shot; then suddenly pulling round, lieutenant Guion in the barge of the *Christian the Seventh* dashed alongside the enemy's leading boat and carried her, after a short struggle, in which she had 2 men killed and 3 wounded, including her commander (severely). Seeing the *Christian the Seventh's* barge heave round in pursuit of the enemy, the other boats did the same, and almost at the same moment the french flotilla put about, and pulled away towards the Fouras passage. As there was a heavy swell setting in, the british boats were soon recalled, but lieutenant S. Roberts, assisted by lieutenant P. H. Nicolas of the marines, in the barge of the *Armide*, pursued two of the gun-boats, keeping up a steady fire within pistol-shot. Not being able to overtake them, lieutenant Roberts proceeded to execute the service for which the boats had been detached, and under a fire from the battery on point Chatelaillon, the chasse-

marées were set on fire and destroyed. For this exploit, and some former boat attacks, lieutenant Guion was promoted to the rank of commander.

On the 12th of May, at 1 h. 30 m. P.M., the 36-gun frigate Tribune, captain George Reynolds, cruising in the Naze of Norway, chased two brigs, who made sail and proceeded for the port of Mandal, and at 2 h. 30 m. hove to within the rocks. The Tribune having stood in, gave the brigs her broadside, and then hauled off under easy sail. Several gun-boats now pulled out from behind the rocks, while two other large brigs joined the two first seen, and at 3 h. 15 m. this united force was observed coming out, as if intending to attack the frigate; whereupon the Tribune immediately wore towards them, and at 3 h. 40 m. hove to, whilst the four danish brigs (two of which mounted 20, one 18, and the other 16 guns) tacked, and stood towards the frigate in line of battle. At 4 P.M. the Tribune filled on the star-board tack, and at 4 h. 30 m. wore round and discharged her larboard broadside at the four brigs, then about half a mile to windward. A smart engagement was maintained until 6 h. 45 m., when the brigs ceased firing, and made sail to regain the port of Mandal, pursued by the Tribune until they reached the harbour in safety. The Tribune suffered severely in her masts, sails, and rigging, and her boats were rendered useless. Her loss amounted to 4 seamen, 4 marines, and 1 boy killed; 15 seamen and marines wounded. The officers of marines of the Tribune were Alexander Campbell and John Jackson.

On the morning of the 23rd of July, captain Richard Byron detached four boats from the 36-gun frigate Belvidera, and three from the 28-gun frigate Nemesis, under the orders of lieutenant Samuel Nisbett and several other officers, including lieutenant James Campbell of the marines, to attempt the capture of two danish gun-vessels, each mounting 2 long twenty-four pounders and 6 six-pounder howitzers, with a crew of 45 men; and a third gun-vessel of one long twenty-four pounder, with 25 men. As the boats approached, they were received by a heavy fire from

the Danes, replied to by the carronades in the bows of two launches. In a short time the two gun-vessels hauled down their colours, and were taken possession of without any loss; but the Danes on board them had 4 men killed. The other gun-boat ran up a creek, and having been abandoned by her crew, was burnt by the British.

On the 22nd of March the detachments of marines of the 74-gun ships *Montagu* and *Magnificent*, and 38-gun frigate *Belle Poule*, under the following officers: captains W. H. Snowe and — Stewart; lieutenant E. A. Chartres, Philip Laffer, Robert Leonard, Arthur Morrison, George Gunn, and J. A. Philips, landed, in conjunction with a division of the army under the command of brigadier-general Oswald, to attack the town and citadel of Santa Maura.

The island of Santa Maura is about forty miles in circumference, and is situated between Corfu and Cephalaria. In the early ages it was joined to the main land on the coast of Epirus; but the isthmus was cut through by the Carthaginians, and the island is at present divided from the continent by a channel about fifty yards in width. "The fortress," says sir John Stuart, "is situated on a narrow sandy isthmus of three miles in length, which joins it to the island; and it has besides a direct communication with the town by a singularly narrow causeway, nearly a mile in length. The neck of land is defended by two strong redoubts and an entrenchment regularly constructed, and capable of such resistance, as led the enemy to declare they would arrest our progress for a month at least."

The advance was composed of 160 men of the regiment of De Rolls on the right under major Bosset, 240 marines in the centre under captain Snowe, and the left of 216 men of the Calabrian free corps under major Oswald; having a reserve of 100 men of the Calabrese in rear of each flank, ready to act as circumstances might require. This force, commanded by major Clark, formed at an early hour preparatory for the assault.

The line to be attacked extended from across the isthmus,

mounted with four pieces of cannon, well flanked, and manned by about 500 infantry, having a wet ditch with an abatis in front, and so well protected on the sea side as to render it almost secure from the fire of shipping. The Imogene brig and three gun-boats covered the landing of the troops, and drove the enemy from three batteries that commanded the entrance, to a large lake that extends to the town and citadel. As soon as the disembarkation was effected, the troops marched towards the town, which was given up without opposition, and taken possession of by a division under colonel Lowe, while the main body continued its route towards the citadel. On reaching the northern shore, it was discovered that the enemy had constructed two strong redoubts upon the neck of land at a considerable distance in advance, whence it was necessary to drive them before any thing could be undertaken against the principal work. The Leonidas frigate took up a position to cannonade the redoubts, and the troops, headed by the brigadier-general, advanced under a heavy fire; drove the enemy from their entrenchments at the point of the bayonet, and followed them so closely, that they had not time to rally at the second redoubt, but fled through it without stopping, and were pursued close to the walls of the citadel. As the column advanced left in front, the Calabrian free corps became the leading division of the battalion under major Clark; but at the first discharge of a well-directed fire of grape and musketry from the enemy, the Calabrese instantly threw themselves on the ground, and remained immovable in spite of every effort to rally them, and the indignant treatment they received from the marines; who, now cheering, passed over their bodies, and dashing forward broke through the abatis: then rushing into the intrenchments, pursued the enemy, until their gallant progress was arrested by an order for them to fall back to the redoubts they had so nobly carried.

The conduct of the marines elicited the admiration of the army, and the following appeared in the orders issued on the occasion :—

PAROLE CEPHALONIA. “ *Head Quarters, Santa Maura,*
23rd March, 1810.

“ Brigadier-general Oswald has to acknowledge the great gallantry displayed by the troops who accomplished the storming of three of the enemy’s entrenched batteries. The intrepid manner in which the Royal Marines performed that service, claims the highest admiration. He requests that major Clark, who led them on, also captains Snowe and Stewart, and the officers and non-commissioned officers, will be pleased to accept his tribute of approbation. He laments the brave officers and men lost on this occasion, but it is some consolation to think that their gallantry was rewarded by success.

(Signed) A. CUST, A. A. G.”

“ Major Clark begs the continuance of that assistance and support which he has hitherto experienced from the officers commanding the detachments composing the battalion he has the honour to command, without which he can never hope to establish that system of order, regularity, and combination so essentially necessary to the creditable existence of the corps.

“ The conspicuous good conduct of the battalion since its formation renders it a pleasing anticipation to the commanding officer, that as their bravery in the field has already acquired them the flattering notice of the brigadier-general commanding, so will their future steady adherence to the same line of conduct secure them the approbation of that respectable authority, for steadiness and exemplary good conduct.

(Signed) C. W. CLARK,
MAJOR COMMANDING.”

On the 25th ten guns were landed from the *Magnificent*, and captain Mowbray succeeded to the command of the naval force, in consequence of the severe wound which captain Eyre had sustained. As the only way by which the cannon could be brought against the citadel was across the narrow neck of land, composed principally of loose gravel thrown up by the sea, the

difficulties in erecting the batteries were very considerable ; but the ardour and energies of the soldiers and sailors rose in proportion as obstacles presented themselves. On the 8th of April the british batteries opened their fire, which was returned by the citadel until the night of the 15th; when a detachment under colonel Moore drove the enemy from an advanced entrenchment, and lodged itself in their place.

Extract from brigade orders of 16th April, 1818 :—" Brigadier-general Oswald has great satisfaction in noticing the gallantry with which the detachments under the orders of and led by lieutenant-colonel Moore last night stormed the enemy's entrenchments close to his walls, intrepidly converting those lines into a post of defence for themselves and annoyance to the enemy. The lieutenant-colonel, with the officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of the detachments, are requested to accept the brigadier-general's acknowledgments for their meritorious conduct on this occasion."

The out-lying picquet consisted of 4 captains, 7 subalterns, 15 serjeants, 4 drummers, 300 rank and file, and 20 rifles. A heavy fire from the fort was opened upon them for several hours, but finding that the british troops were immovable, and that their own men were picked off in the embrasures, the enemy sent out a flag of truce, offering to capitulate. Shortly afterwards the terms were agreed upon, and the gates were in possession of the British on the same evening. The loss sustained by the marines amounted to 6 rank and file killed ; captain W. H. Snowe and 16 rank and file severely, lieutenant Arthur Morrison and 5 rank and file slightly wounded.

The 38-gun frigate *Spartan*, captain Jahleel Brenton, in company with the *Success* frigate, when off Ischia, on the 1st of May discovered the french 40-gun frigate *Cérés*, 30-gun corvette *Fama*, 8-gun brig *Sparvière*, and *Achille* cutter ; and having made sail in pursuit, chased them into the mole of Naples. As an inducement for the french commodore to put to sea, captain Brenton on the 2nd detached the *Success*, and the

Spartan stood back into the bay. At 5 A.M. on the 3rd, when the british frigate was midway between cape Mismao and the island of Capri, the french ships were observed standing out of the bay of Naples on the larboard tack, accompanied by seven gun-boats.

It appears that they were sent out for the express purpose of attacking the british frigate; and to ensure her capture, 400 Swiss troops were distributed in the squadron. At 7 h. 58 m. the Cérés, when within pistol-shot on the Spartan's lee bow, discharged her larboard guns in quick succession; and the latter, as soon as she could bring her guns to bear with effect, opened her broadside treble-shotted, which made dreadful carnage on board the french ship, particularly among the swiss troops, who were drawn up from the cat-head of the taffrail in readiness for boarding. The british frigate then engaged the Fama and Sparvière, as they passed slowly on in the wake of their commodore. The Spartan now luffed-up, in order to cut off the cutter and gun-boats; and heaving hove in stays, gave them a broadside as she came round: her starboard guns were then directed at the Sparvière and the two ships a-head of her. This was an opportune moment for the Cérés to have supported the flotilla; but instead of tacking to meet the Spartan, the french frigate wore, and stood towards the batteries of Baia, followed by her opponent.

About 9 A.M. the breeze suddenly died away, and left the Spartan with her head exposed to the starboard broadside of the Cérés, having also on her larboard bow the corvette and brig, whilst the cutter and gun-boats were sweeping astern of her. A heavy cannonade was now opened upon the Spartan from every side, and the long eighteen-pounders of the gun-boats kept up a galling fire on her stern and quarter. At this moment captain Brenton was standing on the capstan, when a grape shot struck him on the hip, which compelled him to resign the command to lieutenant G. W. Willes, just as a light breeze enabled the Spartan to place herself on the star-

board-quarter of the *Cérès*, and on the bow of the corvette, whilst the brig and flotilla were nearly astern of the british ship. Taking advantage of the disabled state of their opponent's rigging the *Cérès* and *Fama* hauled in-shore under the batteries of Baia; but the raking fire of the british frigate knocked away her fore top-mast, whilst her starboard guns compelled the brig, with loss of her main top-mast, to haul down her colours. This was at 10 A.M., and the gun-boats gallantly came down, and rescued the *Fama* from the fate of the *Sparvière*.

The Spartan, out of 258 men and boys, had a master's-mate, 6 seamen, and 3 marines killed; her captain (severely), lieutenant Willes, 15 seamen, and 5 marines wounded. Total, 10 killed, 22 wounded. The French acknowledged a loss of 30 killed and 80 wounded; and 11 killed on board the captured brig.

Captain Brenton speaks highly of the conduct of lieutenants Charles Fegen and Christopher Fotterell of the marines. Lieutenant Willes, for the distinguished part he took in the action, was deservedly promoted to the rank of commander.

The 38-gun frigate *Alceste*, captain Murray Maxwell, having chased several french vessels in the bay of Agaye, near the gulf of Frejus, where they were protected by two batteries, one on each side of the entrance; in the evening of the 22nd of May two strong parties were detached to endeavour to carry the forts by storm. The detachment under lieutenant Andrew Wilson, that landed on the right of the bay, in marching through a thick wood to get in the rear of the fort, was attacked by one of the enemy's picquets, who were soon repulsed by the marines under lieutenants Walter Griffith Lloyd and Richard Hawkey, without sustaining any loss; but the guide having made his escape, lieutenant Wilson was obliged to relinquish the enterprise, and return to the ship. The attack on the opposite battery was more successful: 2 twenty-four pounders were rendered useless, and the magazine destroyed.

The 38-gun frigate *Armide*, captain L. F. Hardyman, with

the 18-gun brig *Cadmus*, and gun-brigs *Monkey* and *Daring*, were detached by rear-admiral Stopford from Basque roads on the 2nd of May, to attempt the destruction of a french corvette moored in a creek in the upper part of the *Pertuis Breton*. On the arrival of the *Armide* and the brigs off the town of *Ars* in the Isle of *Rhé*, on the afternoon of the 3rd, a large convoy was discovered in the harbour of *Fosse de l'Oye*; when the probable capture of so many vessels, deeply laden from *Bordeaux*, induced captain Hardyman to delay the attack upon the corvette; and giving orders for immediate preparation to make the attempt on the convoy, the squadron came to an anchor off the port. The attacking force was ordered to rendezvous on board the *Monkey*; and at 10 p.m. eight boats under the orders of lieutenant Samuel Roberts, accompanied by several officers, including lieutenant of marines Paul H. Nicolas, repaired alongside the brig. Although the wind had become less favourable for bringing out the vessels, it was still determined to make the attempt, and at 11 h. 30 m. p.m. the boats proceeded towards the harbour; but on arriving within range of the battery on the right-hand side, the headmost unfortunately grounded on a shoal, and this accident producing some confusion, it gave the enemy an intimation of their approach. Lights appeared in every direction, while the batteries opened on both sides of the shore, and a discharge of musketry from the shipping; but the boats dashed on, and gained possession of seventeen vessels. The wind having become more unfavourable, combined with the rapidity of the current, made it impracticable to bring the prizes out of the harbour, consequently many were set on fire. At daylight the boats returned to their ships, having sustained the loss of lieutenant P. S. Townley of the *Armide*, (a gallant and promising officer, who fell in defending a captured vessel against the attack of a row-boat), and 2 seamen killed; and three men wounded.

In the month of June the 32-gun frigate *Amplion*, 38-gun frigate *Active*, and 32-gun frigate *Cerberus* were cruising in the

gulf of Trieste. On the morning of the 28th a convoy having been chased into the harbour of Groa by the boats of the *Amphion*, captain Hoste, notwithstanding the absence of the *Active* in the offing, determined to attempt their capture with the boats of the two frigates. Lieutenant Slaughter, accompanied by several officers, including lieutenants Thomas Moore and Jeremiah Brattle of the marines, pushed off after dark ; and before daylight on the morning of the 29th landed a little to the right of the town without opposition. Advancing immediately to the attack of the place, above which the vessels lay moored, the British, just as the day dawned, were met by a body of veteran french troops and armed peasantry, who opened a sharp and destructive fire, which compelled the attacking party to retire to the shelter of some hillocks. The French, supposing that their opponents were retreating to the boats, quitted their advantageous position, and advanced with the bayonet. They were received with the bravery and steadiness so characteristic of british seamen and marines, and a lieutenant, a serjeant, and 38 privates of the 81st regiment of french infantry were made prisoners.

The British now entered the town, and took possession of twenty-five vessels ; and at about 11 A.M., a lieutenant and 22 men having entered Groa from the village of Maran, they were attacked by the force nearest them, under lieutenants Moore and Meares of the marines, the latter from the *Active* (whose boats had just landed), and the french detachment immediately laid down their arms. It was not until 8 P.M. that the whole party returned to their ships, accompanied by the prizes.

The loss sustained in performing this gallant service amounted to 4 marines killed ; lieutenant Jeremiah Brattle, 3 seamen, and 4 marines wounded. On the part of the French 10 were killed, (eight of that number by bayonet wounds,) and 8 wounded. Eleven of the captured vessels were burnt, because too large to pass the bar, and five were brought out.

Captain Hoste, in concluding his letter, thus expresses him-

self:—"It is hard to particularize where all distinguish themselves, but the conduct of lieutenant Moore, who commanded the marines, is spoken of in such high terms by all, that I feel it a duty to mention him; and I do it in that confidence of his worth, which his exemplary behaviour, during five years' service together, has long insured him. Opportunities do not often offer where officers are personally engaged; but in the one I have endeavoured to describe, the commanding lieutenant, and his two gallant associates Moore and Dickenson, owe their lives to their own individual bravery and strength: indeed, the conduct of all merits the warmest encomiums, and I regret I cannot have it in my power to particularize them."

Lieutenant Moore, for his conspicuous gallantry on this and other occasions, obtained the brevet rank of captain on the 21st of November, 1810. During the period lieutenant Moore served in the *Amphion*, he had the proud satisfaction of saving the lives of two fellow-creatures, by rescuing them from drowning. In one instance, whilst the ship was in action against the town of Peran, this gallant officer jumped overboard on the engaged side, and saved a man; and the other, when it was blowing extremely hard, and immediate assistance could not be procured, he had much difficulty in supporting, for a considerable time, a person who could not swim, and both were taken up in an exhausted state.

As the 32-gun frigate *Thames* and 18-gun sloop *Pilot* were standing along the coast of Naples, at day-break on the 25th of July, the 18-gun sloop *Weazle* appeared off *Amanthea*, with the signal flying for an enemy's convoy; which consisted of thirty-two transports laden with stores for Murat's army at *Scylla*, escorted by seven heavy gun-boats and four scampavias. On the approach of the british ships, the transports ran upon the beach under the town of *Amanthea*, where they were flanked by two batteries, while the gun-boats formed in line for their protection. The frigate and brigs stood close in, and opened a heavy fire of grape, which soon drove the Neapolitans

from their vessels. The boats then pushed for the shore, and lieutenant David M'Adam, with the marines, landed to cover the seamen, while launching the vessels, from the fire of the troops and armed inhabitants, who were protected by an embankment; after being driven from that shelter, they greatly annoyed the British from the walls of the town, but every difficulty was surmounted, and at 6 P.M. most of the vessels were brought off. This gallant and important enterprise was accomplished with so slight a loss as 1 marine killed; 6 seamen and marines wounded.

On the 30th of April, while the 36-gun frigate *Néréide*, captain N. J. Willoughby, was reconnoitring the south-east coast of the Isle of France, a large merchant ship was discovered lying at the anchorage of Jacotel, within pistol-shot of two batteries commanding the entrance of the harbour. Having resolved to attempt the capture of the ship, captain Willoughby embarked in the boats at midnight, taking with him his three lieutenants, and lieutenants of marines Thomas S. Cox and Thomas H. W. Desbrisay, together with 50 seamen and 50 marines. After much difficulty in approaching through an intricate passage, they had reached the landing-place, when a small national schooner gave the alarm. Both batteries, assisted by two field-pieces, immediately opened upon them; and as the party formed upon the beach, they became also exposed to a sharp fire of musketry. The British instantly pushed forward, and in less than ten minutes got possession of the nearest battery, mounting 2 long twenty-four pounders. Whilst this service was performing, a detachment, consisting of 40 soldiers of the 18th regiment of the line, 26 artillery-men with 2 six-pounders, and a strong force of militia, had driven the small division left in charge of the boats into the centre of the harbour: this party now opened a fire upon the British, who immediately attacked them with the bayonet, put them to flight, and captured the field-pieces, with their commanding officer, who was in the act of spiking the guns. The return of day-

light exposed to the enemy the small force by which they were assailed, and as the principal battery was now to be attacked, it became necessary to pass the river Galet, which was so swollen by the heavy rains that it was difficult to wade across; but this was accomplished, although exposed to a heavy fire from 2 twelve-pounders, and a strong body of militia posted on a hill on the right. Having reached the opposite bank they quickly formed, and giving three cheers rushed up the hill: the two guns and the battery, with its colours, were carried in the most gallant style, and the commandant, colonel Colgard, made prisoner.

Having spiked the guns and a mortar, burnt and destroyed the carriages, also the works and magazine, and embarked the two field-pieces, with some naval and military stores; captain Willoughby was on the point of returning to the *Néréide*, when the party which had been driven from the first battery, strongly reinforced by the militia, were observed drawn up on the left. To prevent the enemy from making the precipitate retreat they had already practised, captain Willoughby endeavoured to get into their rear; but as soon as this movement was perceived, the french militia, followed by the regulars, took to their heels, and a second time beat the british seamen and marines in running after them. On their way back to the boats, after again crossing the river, the invaders burnt the signal-house and flag-staff, situated about a mile from the beach. Having well sounded the harbour, captain Willoughby took with him the schooner *Estafette*, mounting 4 brass four-pounders and 14 men; but as the ship proved to be an american of 400 tons, she was left at her anchors. The loss sustained by the British was comparatively trifling: 1 marine was killed; lieutenant Deacon, 4 seamen, and 2 marines wounded.


In the month of July it was determined to make an attack upon the *Isle de la Passe*, a small rocky island situated four miles to the eastward of Port Impérial, or Sud-est, and captain Willoughby embarked a detachment of 100 soldiers on board

the *Néréide* for that purpose. On the 10th of August the 38-gun frigate *Sirius*, captain Pym, with the 36-gun frigate *Néréide*, and *Staunch* gun-brig, arrived off Grand Port, and on the same evening the boats, containing 400 seamen, marines, and soldiers, taken in tow by the *Staunch*, proceeded to the attack of the island. The night became very dark and boisterous, which occasioned the dispersion of the boats; but at daylight on the 11th, they were picked up by the frigate and brig.

In order to lull suspicion of a meditated attack, the ships bore away round the south-west end of the island, and joined captain Lambert in the 38-gun frigate *Iphigenia* off Port Louis; and to further the stratagem, it was arranged that the two frigates should return by different routes, so as to arrive off Grand Port nearly at the same time. Before their departure, two boats from the *Iphigenia*, under lieutenant H. D. Chads, came on board the *Sirius* to assist in the intended attack, and on the 13th that ship arrived off the Isle de la Passe; but the *Néréide* and *Staunch*, having to beat up from the south-west end of the Isle of France, were still at a great distance to leeward. Apprehensive that the French might be aware of his intention, captain Pym resolved to avail himself of the favourable state of the weather; and ordering an immediate attack, five boats, including those of the *Iphigenia*, containing between them 71 officers, seamen, and marines, commanded by lieutenant George R. Norman, assisted by lieutenants J. W. Watling and H. D. Chads, and lieutenants of marines James Cottell and William Bate, pushed off from the *Sirius*. The guns mounted upon the island consisted of 4 twenty-four and 9 eighteen-pounders, with 3 thirteen-inch mortars and 2 howitzers; and the garrison on the fortress, of two commissioned officers and about 80 regular troops. The landing-place, situated on the inner or north-west side of the island, was defended by a *chevaux-de-frise* and the two howitzers; but to arrive at this place it was necessary to pass a battery, on which most of the guns were mounted.

The five boats moved on in close order, the launch with her eighteen-pounder carronade taking the lead; and fortunately, as they approached the island the moon was obscured, which prevented their being discovered until they had neared the shore, when the enemy opened a fire which killed two men and wounded several others in the launch, and did nearly as much execution in the pinnace: nevertheless, the boats dashed on, and effected a landing without further loss. Lieutenants Norman and Watling now attempted to scale the works, but having failed, the former was in the act of turning away to try another spot, when the sentinel shot him through the heart. Another effort to scale the walls proved successful; but after this was accomplished a stout resistance was made, and it was not until the British had suffered a loss of 7 killed and 18 wounded, that they succeeded in driving the enemy from the works. Lieutenant Watling next proceeded to attack the batteries on the south-east side; when he was met by lieutenant Chads, who had landed on another point of the island, and in a very gallant manner stormed the fort in that direction, without sustaining any loss. The concentration of the british force induced the french commandant to surrender at discretion, and in such haste, that he forgot to destroy the signals, which were secured by the victorious party.

Captain Willoughby, having charge of the isle of Passe, after anchoring the *Néréide* at the back of the island, placed 50 grenadiers of the 33rd and 69th regiments as a garrison, with captain Todd as commandant of the island. On the 17th, 50 men of the 33rd and 69th regiments under their officers, 12 artillerymen, and 50 marines under lieutenants Thomas Robert Pye and Thomas S. Cox of that corps, with 50 seamen under lieutenant H. C. Deacon, making a total of 170 officers and men, having embarked in the boats, captain Willoughby proceeded to attack the fort on *Pointe du Diable*, commanding the small or north-eastern passage into *Grand Port*. The party landed before daylight at *Canaille du Bois*, and after a march of six miles



reached the fort, which they immediately stormed and carried without sustaining any loss; although the french commanding officer and 3 men were killed, and 3 gunners taken prisoners. Having spiked 8 twenty-four pounders and 2 thirteen-inch mortars, destroyed the carriages and blown up the magazine, captain Willoughby moved on to the old town of Grand Port, a distance of twelve miles. On their way along the coast the party was attended by three boats of the *Néréide*, fitted as gun-boats, who so effectually covered the road of march, that the only time any attempt was made to impede their advance, the enemy was defeated with the loss of 6 men killed and wounded: in the evening, the party returned on board the *Néréide*. The same detachment, supported by the *Staunch* gun-brig, landed on the morning of the 18th and destroyed the signal-house at Grande Rivière; then returning to Pointe du Diable, and demolishing the remaining works, the captain and his party moved on to Canaille du Bois, whence they embarked at sunset. During this march of nearly 22 miles in an enemy's territory, they sustained no greater loss than lieutenant Davis of the Madras artillery and one private wounded, and one missing.

On the 19th and 20th the party again landed, and while at some distance from the ship, five large sail having been observed standing down under easy sail for the Isle de la Passe, captain Willoughby hastened away in his gig, and arrived about noon on board the *Néréide*.

Having, as before mentioned, obtained possession of the french signals, the *Néréide* hoisted french colours, which were also displayed at the fort on the island; and further to induce the strangers to run into Grand Port, she hoisted the french signal, "The enemy is cruising off the Coin de Mire." To this, the french frigates replied by making the private signal, which being duly answered by the island, the enemy's ships made their numbers as the *Bellone* and *Minerve* frigates, *Victor* corvette, and two prizes, the *Wyndham* and *Ceylon*, which had been captured on the 4th of July.

The french ships then stood away for the anchorage, and at 1 h. 30 m. P.M. the Victor, leading, having arrived within pistol-shot of the *Néréide*, the latter, substituting the british for the french colours, opened her fire with such effect, that the corvette hailed to say she had surrendered, and immediately anchored on the *Néréide*'s starboard quarter. The *Minerve* next entered the channel, and after exchanging broadsides with the *Néréide*, she ordered the Victor to rehoist the french colours and follow her: the corvette was immediately under sail in the wake of the Ceylon, steering for Grand Port. At about 2 h. 40 m. the *Bel-lone*, after exchanging a few shot with the battery, and firing a broadside at the *Néréide*, entered the harbour with her consorts.

The *Néréide* was now in a critical position, surrounded by a very superior force of the enemy; consequently, captain Willoughby despatched a lieutenant in the launch to apprize captain Pym of the enemy's arrival in Grand Port, and offered to lead in and attack the enemy's ships at their anchorage with one frigate besides the *Néréide*. On the 22nd the *Sirius* made her appearance, and having exchanged numbers with the *Néréide*, still at anchor under the island, captain Willoughby made the signals,—“Ready for action,” “Enemy of inferior force.” The *Sirius* soon afterwards bore up for the passage, and at 2 h. 40 m. P.M. the *Néréide* got under way with her stay-sails only, followed by the *Sirius*. At 4 h. P. M. the *Sirius* grounded on the point of a shoal on the left-hand side of the channel, and having much way on her at the time, was forced a considerable distance on the bank. The *Néréide* immediately anchored close to her, and by great exertion the *Sirius* was hove into deep water. Here the frigates remained for the night, and on the morning of the 23rd, the *Iphigenia* and *Magicienne*, captains C. H. Lambert and Lucius Curtis, having joined company, the four frigates bore up at 4 h. 40 m. P.M., and stood down the channel towards Grand Port. The *Néréide*, under her stay-sails, jib, and spander, cleared the winding passage, and steered

safely along the edge of the reef which skirts the anchorage; but the *Sirius*, keeping too much to starboard, ran over the edge of one shoal, and remained fast on a coral rock. The *Magicienne* and *Iphigenia* successively cleared the channel, but the former grounded on a bank when within 400 yards of her station in such a position, that only three of her foremost guns would bear on the enemy. The *Iphigenia* taking warning, dropped her stream anchor, and brought up by the stern in six fathoms; then letting go a bower under foot, brought her starboard broadside to bear on the *Minerve*.

The *Néréide* had commenced firing, and was about to anchor; but captain Willoughby perceiving the accident to the *Sirius*, gallantly pushed on and took the station intended for that ship abreast of the *Bellone*, at the distance of 200 yards. The action was now furiously maintained on both sides; and at 6 h. 15 m., the *Ceylon* having hauled down her colours, cut her cable and made sail for the shore; but in endeavouring to effect this, she ran foul of the *Bellone*, when that ship also cut her cable and ran aground. The *Minerve* about the same time, having had her cable cut by a shot, made sail in the direction of the *Bellone*, and grounded close to her. At 7 h. p. m. the *Néréide*'s spring was carried away, and as she swang with her head in-shore, she became exposed to a severe raking fire, until she was again enabled to bring her starboard broadside to bear upon the enemy.

Captain Willoughby was severely wounded in the early part of the action by a splinter, which tore his left eye completely out of the socket. The first-lieutenant, John Burns, was mortally wounded, the second dangerously; lieutenant of marines, Thomas S. Cox, and the greater part of the crew, were either killed or disabled. Most of the quarter-deck and many of the main-deck guns were dismounted, and the shattered hull of the ship was striking the ground abaft at every heave of the swell. Five hours having elapsed since the commencement of the action without assistance arriving from any ship of the squadron, captain Willoughby ordered all further resistance to cease,

and desired the remnant of his gallant crew to shelter themselves below from the enemy's heavy fire. The *Bellone* continued the cannonade, and at a little past midnight the *Néréide's* main-mast was shot away; but it was not until 1 h. 50 m. that the french frigate ceased firing.


At daylight on the 24th the *Bellone* renewed the action, although the french colours were displayed in the fore-rigging of the *Néréide*; but as this attack upon a defenceless ship might probably be attributed to the circumstance of a union-jack still flying, which could not be removed from the mizen top-gallant mast-head, the top-mast was cut away, and then the firing ceased.

Out of 281 officers and men on board the *Néréide*, lieutenant Burns, lieutenants Morlett (of the 33rd) and Aldwinkle (of the Madras artillery), one midshipman, and 88 men were killed; captain Willoughby, lieutenant H. C. Deacon, the master, lieutenants Thomas S. Cox of the marines, and — Needhall of the 69th, the boatswain, one midshipman, and 130 seamen, marines, and soldiers wounded. Total: 92 killed, and 137 wounded; leaving just 52 unhurt.

The *Iphigenia* had 5 killed; her first-lieutenant and 12 men wounded. The *Magicienne* 8 killed, and 20 wounded. The *Sirius* sustained no loss whatever. On board the french ships the total loss is stated at 37 killed, and 112 wounded.

As the *Magicienne* remained immovable, she was set on fire and blew up, with her colours flying, on the 24th at 11 h. P.M.

Every effort to get the *Sirius* afloat proving of no avail, her crew, with those of the *Magicienne* and a quantity of her stores, were removed to the *Iphigenia*, and at 11 h. A.M. on the 25th the *Sirius* exploded. After great exertion the *Iphigenia* was warped out of the channel, and on the 26th, at 8 h. 30 m. P.M., she anchored off the Isle de la Passe. On the following morning three strange french frigates were discovered working up to the island; and at this time all the ships in Grand Port were again afloat.



The *Iphigenia* now cleared for action, and sent to the island as many men as left her with a crew of between 400 and 500, enabling her to fight both sides at once. At 1 P.M. the *Vénus*, *Astrée*, and *Manche*, lay to off the Isle de la Passe, and at 5 h. P.M. commodore Hammelin summoned captain Lambert to surrender both his frigate and the island. This was refused, but the captain offered to submit, provided the *Iphigenia* with her crew were allowed to retire to a british port. On the 25th, at 7 h. 30 m. A.M., a second flag of truce came from the frigates, by which the commodore urged his former demand, and at 9 h. A.M. a summons arrived from general Decaen. After some further negotiation, captain Lambert was threatened, that if he persisted in refusing to surrender the frigate and the island, a joint attack would be made by the french ships, and then the crew and garrison should be put to the sword. Under these circumstances there was no alternative, and consequently the british colours were hauled down.


On the 11th of September, the 38-gun frigate *Africaine*, captain Robert Corbett, when off the isle Ronde of France, chased an armed schooner on shore in a small creek off the Poudre d'Or coast. The jolly-boat and barge were sent to attempt her destruction, but on their arrival in the creek they found the rocks and beach lined with soldiers, who opened a smart fire of musketry; and as the enemy were sheltered from the fire of the marines, the schooner was abandoned with a loss of two men killed; lieutenant of marines James Jackson (2), one midshipman, and 8 men wounded. On the return of the boats, at 1 h. 30 m. P.M., the *Africaine* bore up for the Isle of Bourbon.

At 6 h. A.M. on the 12th, when off that island, two sail were seen in the offing; and at 10 A.M. the two strangers, which were the french 40-gun frigates *Iphigenie* and *Astrée*, stood towards the *Africaine*. About noon the 38-gun frigate *Boadicea*, accompanied by the Otter sloop and Staunch gun-brig, which had weighed from St. Paul, Bourbon, in chase of the french frigates, were also seen by them in the offing to windward; and as soon

as the *Boadicea* cleared the bay of St. Paul, she exchanged numbers with the *Africaine*, from whom the enemy's frigates bore north, distant eight miles. Having embarked two officers and 25 soldiers of the 86th regiment to replace her wounded, the latter made sail towards the enemy. The *Africaine* soon lost sight of the *Boadicea* and her consorts, and gained so much upon the french frigates, that at 7 h. 30 m. P.M. she had reached within two miles on their weather-quarter, and kept under easy sail to allow the *Boadicea* time to get up, to whom she signified her position by firing rockets and burning blue-lights. At 1 h. 50 m. A.M. on the 13th, the french frigates in the midst of a squall bore away, pursued by the british ship; but at 2 h. 10m. the *Iphigénie* and *Astrée* again hauled up on the same tack, and the *Africaine* following the manœuvre, found herself within less than musket-shot on the *Astrée's* weather-quarter: at this time the *Boadicea* was more than four miles distant on the lee-quarter of the *Africaine*.

At 2 h. 20 m. the *Africaine* discharged a double-shotted broadside into the starboard and weather-quarter of the *Astrée*, who immediately returned the fire, and the second broadside of the latter mortally wounded captain Corbett; consequently the command devolved upon lieutenant J. C. Tullidge. At 2 h. 30 m. the *Astrée*, having had her jib-boom and the weather clue of her fore top-sail shot away, ranged a-head clear of her opponent's guns. The wind now dying away, the *Africaine* had scarcely steerage way through the water, when the *Iphigénie* bore down to close her consort; but the breeze freshening a little, the *Africaine* ran alongside the *Iphigénie* to windward and recommenced the action, having the *Astrée* on her weather bow; and thus the british ship had to contend with two of equal force,—one within half pistol-shot on her larboard beam, and the other on her starboard bow, raking her with a destructive fire of round and grape.

At 3 h. 30 m. A.M. the *Africaine* had her jib-boom and fore top-mast shot away, and shortly afterwards her mizen top-mast:



by this time lieutenants Tullidge and Forder had been dangerously wounded, and at 4 A. M. the master had his head carried away by a round shot. The Africaine still continued the action, which lasted until 4 h. 45 m. A. M., and being now entirely disabled, and from the calm state of the weather having no chance of relief from the Boadicea, who was between four and five miles off, the Africaine about 5 h. A. M. struck her colours; nevertheless, the enemy continued firing into the british frigate for more than ten minutes, whereby captain Elliott of the army and several men were killed. Out of her complement, including the detachment of soldiers, of 295 men and boys, the Africaine had her master, captain Elliott of the army, 28 seamen, 14 marines, and 5 soldiers killed; her captain (mortally), first and second lieutenants, lieutenants of marines James Jackson (2) severely, two master's-mates, two midshipmen, lieutenant Horne of the army, 76 seamen, 12 marines, and 17 soldiers wounded. Total: 49 killed, and 114 wounded.

The Iphigenie, out of a complement of 250, had 9 killed and 32 wounded; and the Astrée one man killed, and two wounded. Total: 10 killed, and 35 wounded. The wounded masts of the captured ship were seen to fall one after the other, so that by 8 h. A. M. she lay a totally dismasted hulk.


Soon after the surrender of the Africaine, the Boadicea tacked and stood to windward of the french frigates, to look for the Otter and Staunch, who having joined her at 40 m. past noon, the three bore up with a fine breeze at south-east for the two enemy's ships and their prize. At 3 h. 10 m. the Astrée, taking the Iphigenie in tow, abandoned the captured ship, and made sail to windward. At 5 h. P. M., the Boadicea having arrived close abreast of the Africaine, the latter fired two guns and hauled down the french colours.

On the 17th of September the 32-gun frigate Ceylon, captain Charles Gordon, arrived off Port Louis from Madras, and not finding the Boadicea, she made sail towards Bourbon. Soon afterwards the french 40-gun frigate Vénus, accompanied by

the 16-gun corvette *Victor*, weighed from Port Louis, and made sail in pursuit of the *Ceylon*. The british frigate continued her course, hoping to fall in with the *Boadicea*; but the *Vénus* was enabled to overtake the *Ceylon* soon after midnight, and engaged her until 1 h. 15 m. A.M. on the 18th, when the french frigate wore round and dropped astern. At 2 h. 10 m. the *Vénus* again ranged alongside her opponent, and the action was maintained with vigour on both sides until 4 h. 30 m., when being in an unmanageable state, with the *Victor* in a raking position on her bow, the *Ceylon* hauled down her colours, having 6 seamen and 4 soldiers of the 69th killed; her captain, captain Ross of the 69th, and 29 wounded. The *Vénus* lost her mizen-mast, and fore and main top-masts, and had many men killed and wounded.

On the same day, at 7 h. 30 m. A.M., commodore Rowley in the *Boadicea*, with the *Otter* and *Staunch*, discovered the two french ships and their prize abreast of St. Denis. After receiving fifty volunteers from the *Africaine*, the *Boadicea* and her two consorts weighed from the road of St. Paul, and made sail in chase. The *Victor*, having the *Ceylon* in tow, and the *Vénus* under her courses and a small sail on the stump of her mizen-mast, made the best of their way towards the Isle of France. At 3 h. 30 m. P.M. the *Victor*, finding herself impeded by towing the prize, cast off the hawser and joined her consort; who wore round with her head towards the *Boadicea*, and directed the corvette to make sail to the eastward. At 4 h. 40 m. P.M. the *Boadicea* ran the *Vénus* alongside, and after an action of 10 minutes, in which the latter had 9 men killed and 15 wounded, the french frigate hauled down her colours. The *Boadicea*, who had only 2 men wounded, repaired to the bay of St. Paul, accompanied by her prize and the recaptured *Ceylon*; and in commemoration of the gallant defence of the *Néréide* at Grand Port, vice-admiral Bertie named the *Vénus* after that ship.

On the night of the 27th of September, the boats of the 120-gun ship *Caledonia* and 74-gun ship *Valiant*, lying at anchor in



Basque roads, were detached under lieutenant A. P. Hamilton to destroy three brigs lying under the protection of a battery at Pointe du Ché; and as the enemy had a strong detachment of troops in the adjoining village of Angoulin, a party of 130 marines under captains Thomas Sherman and Archibald M'Lachlan, lieutenants John Coulter and John Couche, and lieutenant Robert John Little of the marine artillery, were added to the division of seamen from the squadron.

At about 2 h. 30 m. A.M. on the 28th the marines were landed under the Pointe du Ché, and the alarm having been given by the brigs, an ineffectual fire was opened from the enemy's guns. Lieutenant Little, with his detachment of artillery-men, pushed forward with the bayonet to the assault, supported by captain M'Lachlan's division, and by a detachment under lieutenants Coulter and Couche; and having gallantly carried the battery, spiked the guns. Lieutenant Little, in leading his men, on entering the fort received the contents of the french sentry's musket in his right hand as he was in the act of cutting him down, and the wrist was so much shattered as to render amputation necessary. Whilst the attack was making on the fort, captain Sherman, with his division, took post on the main road by the sea side, having his front to the village, and his right protected by a launch with an eighteen-pounder carronade. A party of the enemy succeeded, under cover of the night, in bringing a field-piece to bear with some effect, but the marines instantly charged, and captured the gun. Two of the brigs were brought off, and the third destroyed; and the marines were now re-embarked, having sustained no greater loss than lieutenant Little and one private wounded. In the defence of the battery on Pointe du Ché, the enemy had 14 men killed.

On the 21st of November, the different divisions of the expedition intended for the attack of the Isle of France, except that expected from the Cape of Good Hope, had assembled at the anchorage of the island of Rodriguez; and it being considered advisable, on account of the lateness of the season, not to delay


the departure, the squadron under the command of vice-admiral Bertie, with the troops under major-general Abercromby, set sail on the 22nd for the Isle of France ; but owing to light and baffling winds, they did not arrive in sight of the island until the 28th. The naval force consisted of the *Illustrious* of 74 guns, twelve frigates, and some sloops ; and the troops numbered about 10,000 men.

On the morning of the 29th the men-of-war and transports, amounting to about seventy sail, anchored in Grande-baie, about twelve miles to the north-east of *Porte Louis* ; and in the course of the day, the army, with its artillery and ammunition, the several detachments of marines serving in the squadron, under the command of captain F. Liardet, and a large body of seamen under the orders of captain W. A. Montagu, disembarked without opposition. On the 2nd of December a corps of the enemy, with several pieces of artillery, was attacked and overpowered by numbers, routed with the loss of their guns, and many men killed and wounded. The loss on the part of the British amounted to 28 killed and 94 wounded, and 45 missing.

Soon after the termination of this battle, general Decaen proposed to capitulate ; and on the following morning, the 3rd, the terms were ratified, surrendering the colony to Great Britain. The garrison of the Isle of France consisted of 1300 regular troops, and the militia amounted to upwards of 10,000 men : upon the numerous batteries were mounted 209 guns, in excellent order, completely equipped with every requisite for service.

Major-general Abercromby, in his official despatch dated 6th December, 1810, thus expresses himself, "The battalion of marines, under the command of captain Liardet, supported the reputation of this distinguished corps."

On the 13th of December 350 seamen and 250 marines, with two field-pieces, were landed from the *Kent* and *Ajax*, 74, and *Cambrian* frigate, to attempt the capture of three armed, and eight laden vessels, lying in the mole at *Palamos*, protected by



one twenty-four pounder over the mole, with a twenty-four pounder and a thirteen-inch mortar in a battery on a very commanding height, and defended by about 250 soldiers. The detachment landed in perfect order, without sustaining any loss; and on their advancing to attack the town and batteries in the rear, the enemy withdrew to a windmill on a hill, where they continued almost harmless spectators of our men possessing themselves of the batteries and vessels. The mortar was spiked and the cannon thrown into the sea, the magazines destroyed and the vessels, except one which was brought out, destroyed. At this period very little loss had been sustained; but in withdrawing our post from a hill, which was occupied to keep the enemy in check, the men retired in such disorder, that the french troops, who being reinforced from St. Felice, were encouraged to advance upon them; and the British having injudiciously retreated through the town down to the mole, became exposed to such a destructive fire from the houses and the troops, that their loss amounted to 33 killed, 89 wounded, 86 missing, and 1 deserted. Captain Fane of the Cambrian was among the prisoners.

Kent,	7	marines	killed,	19	wounded,	21	missing.
Ajax,	4	„	„	6	„	18	„
Cambrian,	1	„	„	7	„	4	„

Total,—12 killed, 22 wounded, and 43 missing.

CHAPTER IV.

FROM FEBRUARY 1811, TO DECEMBER 1812.

THE 32-gun frigate *Cerberus*, captain H. Whitby, and the 38-gun frigate *Active*, captain J. A. Gordon, cruising off the north-east coast of Italy, on the 12th of February discovered several vessels at anchor in the harbour of Ortona; formed by a large pier running into the sea, and connected with a range of hills leading into the town, which stands on one of the most elevated, commanding the vessels in the harbour and the road. The boats of the two frigates, under the orders of lieutenant James Dickinson, assisted by several officers, including lieutenant John Meares of the marines, were despatched to attempt their capture; and at 10 A.M., on the near approach of the boats, a fire was opened from an armed venetian trabaccolo, and from the soldiers posted on the beach and hills. The British instantly cheered, and dashing on, carried all before them. The trabaccolo, mounting six guns and well manned, was boarded and taken possession of by lieutenant Dickenson, who then landed with the marines under lieutenant Meares, and the small-arm men under Mr. Rennie. This party had to climb up the rocks with great difficulty, and at length the strong post was attained; and while the launches, with their carronades, kept the soldiers and inhabitants in check, the marines planted the british colours at the very gates of the town. The trabaccolo and ten laden vessels were secured, and the two large magazines with military stores destroyed. By 3 P.M. the whole of this important service was completed, and the boats got back to their ships with the comparatively slight loss of four men wounded.

Early on the morning of the 13th of March, a franco-venetian

squadron, under commodore Dubordieu, consisting of the french 40-gun frigates Favorite, Danaé, and Flore, venetian 40-gun frigate Corona, 32-gun frigates Bellona and Carolina, french 16-gun brig Mercure, a schooner, and a xebec, having on board between 400 and 500 troops, appeared off the island of Lissa; and there fell in with a squadron under captain William Hoste in the 32-gun frigate Amphion, consisting, besides that ship, of the 38-gun frigate Active, captain J. A. Gordon, Cerberus 32, captain Henry Whitby, and Volage 22, captain Phipps Hornby. The enemy's squadron was discovered at 3 A. M. by the Active, then to windward of her consorts, and at daylight their whole force was clearly made out by the british ships, who were soon under sail in chase. At 6 A. M. the enemy bore down to the attack in two divisions, the starboard one consisting of the Favorite, Flore, Bellona, and Mercure; and the larboard of the Danaé, Corona, Carolina, and small craft.

The british ships immediately formed in line a-head, having besides red ensigns at their peaks, ensigns and jacks at their fore-mast heads and their different stays. Just before they arrived within gun-shot, captain Hoste telegraphed to the squadron, "Remember Nelson." This injunction, so admirably calculated to inspire the officers and men with the confidence and valour necessary to meet such an apparently overwhelming force, was received with loud hurrahs from every ship as they stood on in close order on the starboard tack, the Amphion taking the lead, followed by the Active, Volage, and Cerberus, under top-sails and top-gallant sails. At 9 A. M. the Amphion opened her fire upon the Favorite, in which she was immediately joined by the Active; and so powerful was this reception, that the french commodore was frustrated in his gallant attempt to pass between those ships. The Favorite then evinced a disposition to board the Amphion upon the quarter; but the discharge of grape and musket-balls from a 5½-inch howitzer made such havoc among the troops and boarders assembled on the french ship's forecastle, that this intention was not repeated.

As the british ships were advancing at the rate of three knots an hour, the course which the French were steering became more oblique, and consequently the *Danaé*, *Corona*, and *Carolina* brought their larboard guns to bear upon the *Volage* and *Cerberus*, who returned the fire with spirit as they arrived within range. The *Favorite*, foiled in her endeavour to pass under the stern of the *Amphion*, stood on engaging her, with the intention of rounding her bows, and placing the british squadron between two fires. At 9 h. 40 m., being within a half-cable's length of the shore of Lissa, the british ships wore together by signal from the *Amphion*, and just as they were getting round, the *Favorite* made an attempt to wear and get to leeward of the british line; but she had scarcely put her helm up, ere she struck on the rocks in the utmost confusion. While the *Cerberus* was in the act of wearing, her rudder became choked by a shot; consequently the *Volage* got round before her, and that ship took the lead on the larboard tack. The *Flore*, the second ship in the enemy's line, shortly afterwards passing under the stern of the *Amphion*, closed upon her lee quarter; almost at the same moment the *Bellona* hauled up on the *Amphion*'s weather-quarter, and both ships kept up a smart fire. By this time the *Danaé*, to avoid the heavy fire of the *Active*, braced up on the larboard tack, followed by the *Carolina* and *Corona*, and thinking to overpower the *Volage*, the *Danaé* placed herself abreast of the little ship; but feeling the effect of the latter's 32 lb. carronades, she hauled off to where her long eighteens could produce their full effect. The *Volage* in endeavouring, by an increase of powder, to reach her opponent, had most of her guns disabled, and could therefore make but little return to the heavy fire of the *Danaé*. The *Cerberus*, with 90 men short of her complement, was but ill calculated to cope with the *Corona* and *Carolina*; but she nobly did her best, although she became much disabled in the contest. At length the *Active*, who had been striving to get to the assistance of her two friends in the van, came up under a press of sail; and the moment the *Danaé*,

Corona, and Carolina saw her approaching, they made off to the eastward. The Amphion, suffering from her position between the two frigates, gradually bore away to close her heaviest and most annoying opponent; and passing close a-head of the Flore, at 11 h. 15 m. came to the wind on the same tack as before, with her larboard broadside bearing upon the french ship's starboard and lee bow. In this situation the Amphion kept up so powerful a fire, that in less than ten minutes the Flore struck her colours. The Bellona bore up at the same time as the Amphion, and placing herself across her opponent's stern, kept up a destructive fire, and some of her shot unintentionally struck the Flore, who had fore-reached upon the british frigate. The Amphion, without taking possession of the Flore, wore round on the starboard tack, and having placed herself on the Bellona's weather bow, compelled the latter, a few minutes before noon, to haul down her colours. The Amphion now wore, and making the signal for a general chase, brought to to leeward of the Cerberus and Volage, whose disabled state had obliged them to bear up. At this time the Flore, who had struck to the Amphion, was observed out of gun-shot on her weather bow, making sail for the island of Lessina, followed by the Danaé; and the disabled condition of the Amphion rendered her incapable of taking revenge upon this unworthy conduct on the part of the Flore's commander. The Active having suffered but little in her masts and rigging, passed to windward of the Cerberus in pursuit of the Corona, and at 30 m. P.M., when just in the mid-channel between Lissa and Spalmadon, having for some time received the fire from the stern-guns of the venetian frigate, the Active at length closed with her to leeward at about 1 h. 45 m. P.M. A spirited action was maintained between these two frigates, which continued until 2 h. 30 m. P.M.; when, after an honourable defence which she had protracted until within reach of the batteries of Lessina, the Corona hauled down her colours. At this time the Danaé and Carolina were safe under the guns of those batteries, and just about entering the road. The Am-

phion had all her masts badly wounded, and was much cut up in her sails and rigging. Out of 251 men and boys, she lost her boatswain, 2 midshipmen, 7 seamen, and 5 marines killed; her captain, lieutenant Dunn, captain Thomas Moore of the marines, and 44 men wounded. Total, 15 killed and 47 wounded. The Active, out of her complement of 300, had 4 killed; lieutenant John Meares of the marines, 18 seamen, and 5 marines wounded. Total, 4 killed, 24 wounded. The Cerberus was severely cut up; and out of a complement of 160 men and boys, she had 13 killed and 41 wounded. The Volage was also much disabled, and of 175 men and boys, she had 12 killed; lieutenant William Stephens Knapman and 32 men wounded. Lieutenant Jeremiah Brattle of the marines was serving on board the Cerberus. The Favorite, who had run on shore at the commencement of the action, was set on fire by her crew, and blew up at 4 P. M.

It will be recollected, that the small island of Anholt, in the Cattegat, was captured from the Danes in May 1809, by a detachment of marines under captain Edward Nicolls, and a party of seamen from the 64-gun ship Standard. This island was subsequently garrisoned by 350 marines, and 31 marine artillery, comprising the following officers; the whole being under the command of captain James Wilkes Maurice of the navy, the governor of the island:—

Captain Robert Torrens, commandant.

Captains—William Holtaway, William Steele.

Lieutenants—T. N. Fischer, Robert Steele, Robert Turnbull, Richard C. Steele, W. Gray, William Ford, John Bezant, E. H. Stewart, J. Jellicoe, R. G. Atkinson, and John Curtayne.

In the distressed state of commerce, occasioned by the rigorous edicts of Buonaparte, the island of Anholt was found useful to England as a dépôt, and as a point of communication with the continent. The Danes, probably instigated by Napoleon, had for some time been preparing a force for the attack of this coveted possession; but so long as the sea remained

open, the british cruisers continued to hover round the island ; and the same inclemency of the weather which at length drove the ships into a southern latitude, shut up the danish gun-boats and transports in their lakes and harbours.

With the return of spring, the Danes were early in renewing their preparations for the invasion of Anholt ; and on the 23rd of March a flotilla, consisting of twelve gun-boats, each mounting 2 long twenty-four or eighteen-pounders, and 4 brass howitzers, with from 60 to 70 men, having under their protection twelve transport vessels, resembling the gun-boats in appearance, and containing between them about 1000 troops, including an organized body of 200 seamen, assembled in Gierrild bay. On the 24th lieutenant Holstein, of the danish navy, visited the island in the sacred character of a flag of truce, but evidently for the purpose of ascertaining the strength of the garrison, which he soon learnt consisted of 400 men ; that the light-house fort was the only fortification of importance, and that the sole vessel of war cruising off the island was a small armed schooner. With this satisfactory report the expedition was so hastened in its departure, that on the 26th of March the flotilla set sail from Gierrild bay ; and on the 27th at 4 A.M., in a dense fog, the danish troops disembarked in perfect order at a spot distant about four miles to the westward of Fort Yorke, the head-quarters of the garrison, and as they were undiscovered, without opposition. Captain Maurice had been apprized on the 10th of February of the intended attack ; consequently every resource in his power was resorted to, to complete the works and give a proper reception to the assailants.

It was just before dawn on the 26th that the out-picquets on the south-side of the island made the signal for the flotilla being in sight : the garrison was immediately under arms, and the brigade of four howitzers, with 200 infantry under the orders of captain Torrens, accompanied by the governor in person, quitted the lines to oppose the landing. On reaching an elevation on a ridge of sand-hills to reconnoitre, it was discovered

that the Danes had landed, and were then proceeding along the beach beneath. As the danish wings out-flanked the british, and if the latter continued to advance would get between the islanders and their works, a retreat was made in good order, and without loss. The enemy was now within pistol-shot of the british rear, threatening to enter the batteries by storm and 200 danish seamen under lieutenant Holstein were advancing with rapidity, cheering the retreat of the howitzers; but a heavy fire from the south-west angle of the Massarene battery obliged them to retire in great haste to the beach, and soon afterwards to abandon a one-gun battery they had gained, on which they had hoisted their colours. Two houses were then taken possession of, but as the Danes were quickly driven from them by the fire of the Yorke and Massarene batteries, they sheltered themselves behind the neighbouring sand-hills. In the mean time the marines and the brigade of howitzers had regained the works in good order, and without sustaining any loss.

As the day opened, the danish flotilla was observed to have taken a position on the south side of the island, within point-blank shot of the works. A signal was then made to the 32-gun frigate Tartar, captain Joseph Baker, and Sheldrake sloop, captain J. P. Stewart, who were on the north side of the island, (where they had arrived on the previous day from England), and both immediately got under way, using every effort to beat up to the southward; but the brig was afterwards directed by signal to remain on the north side; and as captain Baker considered that by running round to leeward he should reach the enemy more speedily, the Tartar bore up round the shoal of Knobens, under all sail. The gun-boats now opened a heavy fire upon the works, while a column of about 600 men, under the commander of the expedition, Major Melstedt, crossed the island to the westward, and took up a position on the northern shore, covered by the hillocks of sand. A detachment from this division, of about 150 men, advanced with great bravery to the

assault; but the discharge of grape and musketry from Fort Yorke and the Massarene battery obliged them to approach cautiously, under cover of the sand-hills; and although they rallied several times, they were at length beaten back. Lieutenant Holstein's division on the south side had by this time succeeded in bringing up a field-piece, which enfiladed the Massarene battery; and this apparent success induced major Melstedt to order a general assault. Just at this time captain William Holtaway, who had commanded at the advanced post, joined the garrison: this officer, after several gallant attempts to force his way to head-quarters by land, had with great presence of mind launched a boat, and by that means landed his party under Fort Yorke, amidst the acclamations of the garrison. The danish troops now pushed forward, supported by a fire from the gun-boats, but the destructive discharge of grape and musketry from the british batteries was irresistible: major Melstedt was killed by a musket-ball, when gallantly leading his men to the assault; the next in command, captain Reydez, had both his legs carried away by a cannon-ball, and another shot put an end to the life of lieutenant Holstein. Dismayed by the loss of their chief officers, the enemy again fell back, and sheltered themselves behind the sand-hills. Fortunately, at this crisis the Anholt schooner, manned by volunteers under lieutenant Henry Loraine Baker of the navy, and lieutenant Richard Turnbull of the marines, anchored close to the northern shore on the flank of the besiegers. The sand-hills being no longer a protection, and finding it impossible to advance or retreat, the assailants hung out a flag of truce, and offered to capitulate; but the governor refusing to accede to any other terms than an unconditional surrender, the Danes, after a short deliberation, laid down their arms.

In the mean time the gun-boats on the south side, observing the approach of the Tartar, got under way and steered to the westward. Thus abandoned, and having no means of retreat, the Danes on this side also hung out a flag of truce. An officer

from the works went to meet it, and to his astonishment found it was a summons to the British. The Danes, however, soon withdrew their pretensions, and consented to an immediate surrender ; and this force, with those captured on the north side, formed a total of 520 officers and men, exclusive of 23 wounded.

Captain Maurice, accompanied by captain Torrens, with the brigade of howitzers under lieutenants Richard C. Steele and John Bezant of the marine artillery, and part of the light company commanded by lieutenant Richard Turnbull, now moved out from the works towards the west-end of the island in pursuit of the remainder of the danish force, who were formed on the beach and protected by fourteen gun-boats, drawn up close to the shore. The formidable appearance of the Danes preserved them from further molestation ; and having embarked, they took final leave of the island, but the flotilla was soon afterwards pursued by the Tartar and Sheldrake, who succeeded in capturing two gun-boats and two transports. The british loss in this gallant defence amounted to no more than 2 men killed ; captain Torrens and 30 wounded. On the part of the Danes, their loss was considerable : about 40 were found dead on the field, and 23 wounded.

In a letter addressed to governor Maurice from sir James Saumarez, that distinguished officer thus expresses himself: "I most heartily congratulate you on the brilliant success of the brave garrison under your command, in having repulsed an attack of the enemy's select troops, consisting of as many thousands as the whole force opposed to them amounted to hundreds ; and by the gallantry and intrepid conduct of your valiant heroes, succeeded in taking a greater number of prisoners than their whole collective force. I can only assure you that this gallant affair is the theme of every one's praise, and has excited the admiration of all."

For their gallant conduct in defence of Anholt, captain Torrens obtained the brevet-rank of major ; and the senior subaltern, J. N. Fischer, the rank of captain.

The three french 40-gun frigates *Renommée*, commodore F. Roquebert, *Clorinde*, and *Néréide*, each having on board 200 troops, sailed from Brest on the 2nd of February, bound to the Isle of France: and on their arrival off the the Isle de la Passe, Grand Port, on the 6th of May, they ascertained that the Isle of France was in possession of the British. The three frigates then tacked to the eastward, followed by the british 36-gun frigates *Phœbe*, captain James Hillyar, and *Galatea*, captain Woodley Losack, with the 18-gun brig *Racehorse*, captain James de Rippe. On the 8th the squadrons were in sight of each other, the french being more than four miles to windward, and they were distantly seen by each other on the following day; but at noon the british ships bore away for Port Louis, where they anchored on the 12th. Commodore Roquebert resolved to make an attempt upon the Isle of Bourbon, and arriving off the island on the 11th, the troops were in the boats ready for disembarkation, but were prevented by the heavy surf. Thus disappointed, the commodore stood across to the coast of Madagascar, to obtain a supply of provisions. On the 19th they surprised the small garrison of Tamatave, consisting of about 100 men of the 22nd regiment.

On the 20th, at day-break, captain C. M. Schomberg in the 36-gun frigate *Astrea*, accompanied by the *Phœbe*, *Galatea*, and *Racehorse*, who had sailed from the Isle of France on the 14th for this place, discovered the french squadron directly to windward; and at noon the commodore formed his three frigates in line of battle, the *Clorinde* a-head and the *Néréide* astern of the *Renommée*. The British were now under all sail, in the following order:—*Astrea*, *Phœbe*, and *Galatea* in line a-head, and the *Racehorse* on the lee-beam of the centre ship.

At 3 h. 50 m. the french squadron wore round on the larboard tack, and as soon as the *Astrea*, (who was approaching on the opposite tack,) arrived abreast of the *Renommée*, the latter discharged her broadside; and in another five minutes the *Astrea* returned the fire, as did the *Phœbe* and *Galatea* as they succeß-

sively advanced. Having passed on out of gun-shot astern of the french line, the *Astrea* prepared to tack to renew the action; but owing to the lightness of the breeze she missed stays, and then with difficulty wore round as it fell calm. The french ships did not lose the breeze until the *Clorinde* and *Renommée* had placed themselves across the sterns of the *Phœbe* and *Galatea*; and the *Néréide* was at some distance on the *Phœbe*'s starboard bow, while the *Astrea* lay also becalmed at the distance of nearly two miles a-head of her two consorts.

At 6 P. M. a light air enabled the *Phœbe* to close the *Néréide* in a raking position, and after engaging her for twenty-five minutes to the great disadvantage of the latter, she was compelled to haul off by the approach of the *Renommée* and *Clorinde*, who had been enabled, by the aid of their boats, to make such havoc on the *Galatea*, that she was glad to avail herself of the light air that had sprung up to stand away towards the *Astrea* and *Racehorse*; and soon afterwards, at about 8 h. 30 m. P. M., her fore and mizen top-mast came down. Captain Schomberg, on learning from captain Losack that the *Galatea* was incapable of again meeting the enemy, ordered the *Racehorse* to follow him closely, as he intended to renew the action as soon as the *Phœbe* was in a state to give him support; and at about 8 h. 25 m. P. M. the *Astrea*, *Phœbe*, and *Racehorse* bore up towards the enemy. The *Néréide*, in consequence of her disabled state, was ordered to make for the land; whilst commodore Roquebert, supported by the *Clorinde*, renewed the action with the *Astrea* at 9 h. 50 m. P. M., and attempted to lay her on board; but this was avoided by the british ship, and after a sharp action of twenty-five minutes the *Renommée* struck her colours. Lieutenant C. Royer and lieutenant John Drury were sent on board to take possession of the prize, and the *Astrea* and *Phœbe* made sail after the *Clorinde*; who having dastardly kept aloof during her commodore's gallant defence, was now so far to windward under a press of canvas, that she made her escape. At 2 h. A. M. on the 21st, the *Astrea* with the *Phœbe*

wore, to cover the captured ship, and at this moment the fore top-mast of the *Phœbe* fell over the side. The *Astrea*, out of 271 men, had 2 killed and 16 wounded.

The *Phœbe* had 7 men killed and 24 wounded. Officers of marines serving on board, lieutenants J. S. Haswell and Richard Pascoe.

The *Galatea* lost her first-lieutenant of marines Hugh Peregrine, 8 seamen, and 5 private marines killed; her captain, second-lieutenant of marines Henry Lewis, 14 seamen, 5 marines severely, lieutenant Bevis, 2 midshipmen, 17 seamen, 4 marines, and 3 boys slightly wounded. Total,—16 men killed, and 46 wounded.

The *Renommée*, out of 470 men, had 93 killed and wounded; among the former her gallant captain. The *Néréide* had also her captain and 24 killed, and 32 wounded.

The *Néréide* reached Tamatave; and on the 25th captain Schomberg, with the *Astrea*, *Phœbe*, and *Racehorse*, having sent a summons to the french commanding officer, the island, together with the *Néréide*, surrendered to the british flag.

The preparations for the expedition destined for the conquest of the dutch island of Java having been completed, the first division of the troops, commanded by colonel Robert R. Gillespie, sailed from Madras on the 18th of April, and anchored at Penang, the first point of rendezvous, on the 18th of May, where the second division under escort of the *Phæton* frigate arrived on the 21st. Both divisions, accompanied by the *Phæton* and *Caroline* frigates, sailed again on the 24th, and the 1st of June reached Malacca. Here they were reinforced by the *Illustrious* 74, with a division of troops from Bengal under sir Samuel Achmuty; and the whole military force thus assembled amounted to 12,000 men, nearly half of whom were Europeans. Leaving behind 1200 sick, the expedition sailed on the 11th of June; and after remaining a week at the High Islands, which they quitted on the 10th of July, they anchored at Point Sambar, on the south-west coast of the island of Borneo, on the 20th.

On the 21st the fleet was again under sail, and on the 30th the expedition arrived off Boompie's island, on the Java coast.

On the 23rd of May, while the 32-gun frigate Sir Francis Drake was cruising off the Java coast, waiting the arrival of the expedition, fourteen dutch gun-vessels, nine of them feluccas, and the remaining four prow-rigged, were discovered at anchor about 13 miles to the north-east of the port of Rembang. On the approach of the frigate, the gun-vessels weighed and stood for Rembang; but being closely pressed, five of the feluccas were captured, whilst the others, finding themselves cut off from the port, pulled directly for the shore. Six boats were immediately sent in pursuit under two lieutenants and several other officers, including lieutenant George Roch of the marines. The gun-boats were boarded under a sharp fire of grape, and the remaining feluccas captured without the loss of a man; the crews jumping overboard, or hurrying to the shore in their boats, as the British were ready to spring on board.

Having waited until the 2nd of August for the arrival of reinforcements, the expedition had set sail, when the frigates hove in sight from reconnoitring the coast. The fleet then proceeded to the village of Chillingching, about 12 miles to the eastward of Batavia, where they arrived at 2 P.M. on the 4th; and so complete had been the arrangements, that before dark the whole of the effective portion of the british infantry, amounting to upwards of 8000 men, were landed without loss or opposition.

The dutch army, commanded by general Janssens, amounting to about 9000 effective troops, native and European, was now shut up in the strong-hold of Meester Cornelis, an entrenched camp situated about nine miles from the city of Batavia, and defended by two rivers; one on the east, the other on the west, with a number of redoubts and batteries guarding each pass. The circumference of these lines was nearly five miles, and there were mounted on the various batteries 280 pieces of cannon.

On the 6th the light cruisers proceeded to the entrance of the river Anjole, distant about two miles from the capital, while the fleet anchored off Tonjong Prioch, where in the course of the day the advance of the british army, under colonel Gillespie, took post. A bridge of flat-boats having been prepared by the navy, the advance crossed the river Anjole in course of the night. On the 8th a flag of truce was sent into the city of Batavia; upon which a deputation from the inhabitants came out, requesting to surrender at discretion and place themselves under the protection of the British. The lieutenant-general and commodore having agreed to respect private property, the advance, under colonel Gillespie, took immediate possession of the city, and the fleet removed to the anchorage before it.

On the 9th, rear-admiral the honourable Robert Stopford joined, and superseded commodore Broughton in the command of the fleet, which now consisted of the 74-gun ships *Scipion*, *Illustrious*, and *Minden*; *Lion* 64; frigates *Akbar*, *Nisus*, *President*, *Hussar*, *Phæton*, *Leda*, *Caroline*, *Modeste*, *Phœbe*, *Bucephalus*, *Doris*, *Cornelia*, *Psyche*, and *Sir Francis Drake*; seven sloops, and eight company's cruisers; making, with the transports and captured gun-boats, nearly a hundred sail.

On the 10th a smart skirmish took place between the advanced division of each army, in which the Dutch were defeated; and the British took possession of the important post of Welterveeden, on the road to Cornelis, distant about six miles from the city, and a league from the entrenched camp of general Janssens. Preparations were now made for the attack of that position, and on the night of the 20th the British broke ground within 600 yards of the enemy's works.

On the evening of the 21st the batteries, mounting 20 long eighteen-pounders, 8 howitzers and mortars, were nearly completed by the assistance of 500 seamen, landed from the squadron under the orders of captain Sayer, assisted by captains Festing, Maunsell, Reynolds, and Stopford.

A battalion of marines, commanded by captain F. Liardet,

having under his orders,—captains Richard Bunce and G. T. Welchman ; lieutenants J. S. Haswell, George Roch, J. H. Harrison, Samuel Garmston, George Lloyd, George Gill, John Weaver, John Balhatchet, Henry Ward, Charles Stewart, D. Barrow, W. Allen, Henry Elliott, R. C. Steele, W. Remfry, Richard Pascoe, William Calamy, James Orr, — Penny, John Elliott, J. Field, and probably some others, was formed from the ships, and brigaded with the army.

Early on the morning of the 22nd, the Dutch made a sortie with such resolution, that they obtained a momentary possession of the batteries ; but the assailants were at length repulsed, and driven within their own lines. Being thus foiled, the Dutch opened a heavy fire from their redoubts, keeping up an incessant cannonade from 34 guns, eighteen, twenty-four, and thirty-two pounders. On the 23rd there was a cessation of the firing on either side ; but it was resumed with great vigour on the 24th, and continued throughout that and the following day with much slaughter on both sides, and to the evident disadvantage of the Dutch : many of their guns being dismounted, and their front line of defence considerably injured. In this state of things an assault was resolved upon, and colonel Gillespie was entrusted with the command of the principal attack.

The troops suffered much from dysentery, and among the victims to that fatal disease was the lamented and gallant officer captain F. Liardet ; consequently the command of the marines devolved on captain Bunce, and the battalion was stationed between the 89th regiment and the 4th Bengal native infantry, forming part of the advance of the army under colonel Gillespie. At midnight on the 25th the troops moved forward, and after a desperate struggle, in which the seamen and marines bore a distinguished part, they carried all before them. Three general officers, 34 field-officers, 70 captains, 150 subalterns, and nearly 5000 soldiers were taken prisoners ; more than 1000 were found dead about the works, and many others must have fallen during this sanguinary contest. General Janssens made his escape

during the action, accompanied by a small detachment of cavalry, the sole remains of his army. The loss sustained by the british army from the 4th to the 27th, including the native troops, amounted to 141 killed, 733 wounded, and 13 missing. On the part of the navy, 11 seamen and 4 marines were killed; captain Stopford (loss of right arm), lieutenant Francis Noble; lieutenants of marines Henry Elliott and John Stepney Haswell, two master's-mates, 29 seamen, 20 marines wounded, and three seamen missing: making the total british loss, 156 killed, 788 wounded, and 16 missing.

BRIGADE ORDERS.

August the 26th, 1811.

“ Brigadier-general Gillespie has again the satisfaction to express his thanks to the advance, whom he has had the honour to command, for the bravery and gallantry they displayed in the action of yesterday, in storming Fort Cornelis. The high sense and admiration he entertained of their conduct in the action of the 10th, was fully upheld in that of yesterday. He has made a faithful report of their heroic conduct to the commander-in-chief. Where all have behaved with such distinguished bravery (and praise is equally due), it is difficult to mention individuals; general Gillespie therefore requests every officer commanding corps and detachments belonging to the advance, captain Bunce commanding the Royal Marines, and captain M'Leod commanding the grenadier company of H. M. 78th regiment, to accept his warmest thanks for the zeal and gallantry which has been displayed by them all; and to communicate to the officers and men under their respective command, the grateful sense he entertains of their merits. General Gillespie begs they will accept a soldier's tribute, ‘ his sincerest thanks and heartfelt gratitude.’ ”

Sir Samuel Achmuty thus addressed the marines:—

“ I have halted you to express my high opinion of the zeal and gallantry displayed by the Royal Marines, who were attached to the advance under general Gillespie in the

action of the 25th. I cannot sufficiently express my gratitude for their exemplary good conduct. I beg you therefore to accept my warmest thanks, and to communicate the same to the officers and men under your command. You are now ordered for embarkation with a part of the army going on a separate service, and I hope soon to meet you again."

On the 4th of July, at day-break, the 36-gun frigate *Unité*, captain E. H. Chamberlayne, being off Port Hercule, on the roman coast, sent her boats to cut out an armed brig, under the orders of lieutenant J. W. Crabb, assisted by lieutenant of marines George Victor, and three midshipmen. On approaching the shore the boats were sharply attacked by the brig, which was the *St. Francis de Paule*, mounting ten guns, and a battery of 2 eight-pounders on the beach. The brig was gallantly boarded and carried, and although she was materially injured in her masts and rigging by the fire of the battery when towing out, she was safely alongside the *Unité* by 7 A.M., without any one being hurt. The *Unité* having been joined at 9 A.M. by the 18-gun brig *Cephalus*, the frigate and brig stood along the coast, and at 5 P.M. discovered several vessels at anchor between Civita-Vecchia and the mouth of the Tiber. Captain Clifford in the *Cephalus* led in, followed by the *Unité*; and having shortly afterwards anchored, the French were driven from their guns in the battery which protected the vessels. The boats of the *Unité*, under the same officers who had distinguished themselves in the morning, joined by those of the brig, then pushed off for the vessels; and although exposed to a sharp fire of musketry from their crews, and from a party of soldiers drawn up on a height, three merchant vessels were brought out without the slightest loss.

On the 20th of July the 18-gun brig *Cephalus* chased a convoy of twenty-six sail, and compelled them to take shelter in Porto del Infreschi; and on the following morning, being joined by the 32-gun frigate *Thames*, captain Charles Napier, the two ships stood in, and having anchored, opened a heavy fire upon

eleven french gun-boats and a felucca, mounting between them 13 guns and 280 men, moored across the port for the protection of fifteen merchant vessels, and 36 spars for the line-of-battle ship and frigate building at Naples. The fire of the gun-boats, as well as of a round tower and a body of musketry on the adjacent hills, was soon silenced; and while the force under captain Clifford took possession of the gun-boats and merchant-men, the marines under lieutenant David M'Adam having landed, they gallantly stormed and carried the round tower, making an officer and 80 men prisoners. All the vessels with the spars were brought out, without any greater loss than four men wounded.

On the 27th of July the 38-gun frigate *Active*, captain J. A. Gordon, anchored off the town of Ragoniza, in the Adriatic, and despatched her boats with a party of seamen under lieutenant James Henderson, and the marines under lieutenant John Meares, with several other officers of the ship, to attack a convoy of twenty-eight vessels, laden with grain for the garrison of Ragusa. As these vessels had run up above the island and taken shelter in a creek on the main, which was protected by three gun-boats, and by an armed force on each point of nearly 300 men; the marines, with the small-arm men, landed and took possession of a hill on the right, driving the enemy who had opposed them on their landing, and having gained the summit found themselves immediately above the gun-boats and the convoy. A preconcerted signal was then made, and lieutenant Gibson boarded the gun-vessels after the marines had fired two volleys into them. Being thus warmly attacked, the crews of the gun-boats, except three men and several others that were wounded, jumped overboard, and reached the shore just as the frigate's boats got alongside. The guns in the vessels were immediately turned upon the flying enemy, and the British, without experiencing any further resistance, took possession of the whole convoy. Ten vessels were burnt, and the remaining eighteen, along with the gun-boats, were safely brought out.

The only loss experienced by the British in this dashing enterprise, was four men wounded.

The 38-gun frigates *Belle Poule* and *Alceste*, captains James Brisbane and Murray Maxwell, having chased a french 18-gun brig into the harbour of Parenza, on the coast of Istria, on the 4th of May, at 10 A.M., the two frigates stood in within a cable's length of the rocks at the entrance of the harbour, and opened their fire upon the brig and a battery under which she was moored. After an hour's cannonade, the brig was compelled to haul on shore under the town, out of gun-shot, and it was then determined to take possession of an island in the mouth of the harbour, within musket-shot of the town. Accordingly, at 11 P.M. the boats of the two frigates, containing 200 seamen and the whole of the marines (about 100), under the orders of lieutenant J. McCurdy, assisted by several officers, among whom were lieutenants E. A. Chartres, Arthur Morrison, Richard Hickman, and Walter Lloyd of the marines, took quiet possession of the island. By 5 A.M. a defence was thrown up, and a battery of 2 nine-pounders and 2 howitzers mounted on a commanding position. A field-piece was also placed at some distance on the left, to divide the attention of the enemy, who had been employed during the night in planting guns in various parts of the harbour. Soon after 5 P.M. the French opened a cross fire from four different positions, which was immediately returned, and a mutual cannonade was maintained during five hours. By this time the brig was cut to pieces and sunk; and the object of the attack being thus accomplished, the British re-embarked with their guns and ammunition, having sustained a loss of 2 seamen and 2 marines killed, and four wounded.

On the 24th of August the *Diana* and *Semiramis* frigates, captains William Ferris and C. Richardson, having observed the french gun-brig *Teaser* with five sail of convoy, anchored under the batteries of Verdon and Royan, at the entrance of the Gironde, a stratagem was had recourse to, by which their

capture was effected. At 4 h. 30 m. P. M., the frigates under french colours having stood boldly in towards the mouth of the river, the Teaser on their approach fired a gun to leeward in token of recognition; and the british ship, repeating the gun, tacked at 6 P. M. A few shots were now fired from the battery on Pointe de la Coubre; but the captain of the Teaser as she ran past the battery hailed the officer, and having informed him that the strangers were the Pallas and Elbe from Rochefort, the firing was discontinued, and soon afterwards a french pilot-boat came alongside of the Diana. At 7 P. M. the frigates anchored off Pointe de Grave, between the Cordouan and Royan, under the batteries of which latter place and Verdon lay the Teaser, in company with the 16-gun brig Pluvier: the convoy having anchored four miles up the river, seven boats were despatched to attempt their capture.

On the morning of the 25th, while the boats were still up the river, the frigates got under way and steered for Verdon road, when the captain of the port, in the full persuasion of their being french ships, pulled alongside, nor did he discover his mistake until he reached the Diana's quarter-deck. While the Semiramis stood towards the Pluvier, the Diana laid the Teaser on board, the frigate's lower yards carrying away the brig's top-gallant masts. In an instant lieutenant R. W. Parsons, accompanied by lieutenant Lewis Pryse Madden of the marines and about thirty men, sprang on board, and without sustaining any loss on either side, carried the Teaser. The moment the Pluvier perceived this occurrence, and saw the Semiramis approaching, she cut her cable and ran on shore under the battery of Royan. The frigate then anchored, and directed her fire at the corvette and battery, when the three boats that had been detached after the convoy rejoined, were immediately sent to attack the brig; which they carried without sustaining greater loss than lieutenant Gardner and 2 men wounded. As the tide was ebbing fast, the crew was removed from the corvette, and she was set on fire and destroyed. The Semiramis then joined the Diana,

who had anchored out of gun-shot, in company with the Teaser and the five captured vessels.

In the month of August, the Sir Francis Drake and Phæton frigates were lying anchored off the east-end of Madura, when captain Harris on the 29th, having resolved to attack the fort of Samanap, the capital of the island, sent the Dasher sloop round the south-end of Pulo-i-Lanjong, to gain an anchorage as near as possible to the fort and, in the evening proceeded with the boats of the frigates in two divisions. On the 30th, at daylight, the boats sailed through the channel formed by the east-end of Madura and Pulo-i-Lanjong, and by thirty minutes past midnight effected a landing, undiscovered, at a pier head about three miles from the fort.

At 1 h. 30 m. A.M. on the 31st, two columns, composed each of 60 bayonets and 20 pikemen, flanked by three field-pieces, having in reserve the marines of the Hussar, began their march in perfect order towards the fort, and so silent was the assault, that they had passed the outer gate before their approach was discovered; the rush towards the inner gate prevented the Dutch from securing it, and only allowed time for the discharge of two or three guns in the south-west bastion. The attack was as sudden as it was resolute; and by 3 h. 30 m. A.M., after a feeble struggle of ten minutes with above 300 Madura pikemen, who with their chief were made prisoners on the ramparts, this regular fortification, mounting 16 six-pounders, was in possession of the British.

At daylight the french colours were observed flying at the east end of the town, and as considerable numbers of the natives were assembling, captain F. B. Pellew, at the head of 100 bayonets and one field-piece, was despatched with a flag of truce to summon the governor, who in reply required an immediate evacuation of the fort. Captain Pellew therefore sent an officer to acquaint captain Harris with the result of his mission; and that the dutch force appeared to amount to 2000 men, who were posted on a bridge protected by four field-pieces in

front, bearing upon a narrow road, which for a quarter of a mile was the only approach to their position. Captain Harris, after sending orders to captain Pellew to advance when the first gun was fired from a column which the latter would lead out of the fort, (and with which he meant to turn the left wing of the enemy,) moved forward with 70 muskets and 20 pikemen, supported by a four-pounder. He soon had the satisfaction to observe the dutch governor (whose force consisted of 300 muskets, 60 artillery-men, and about 1500 pikemen, each armed with a long pike, a pistol, and a creese) break his line and draw off two field-pieces, in order to oppose the small but resolute column advancing on his left. Both british detachments opened their fire nearly at the same time, and after some rounds on both sides, the enemy gave way, and an animated charge left the assailants masters of the field, and in possession of the dutch colours and guns. The governor with the dutch inhabitants were made prisoners, and a flag of truce from the rajah of Samanap was accepted by captain Harris, on condition that the inhabitants of the district should not arm themselves against the British. This success, which overthrew the french authority in Madura and the adjacent isles, was achieved with the loss of 3 men killed, and 28 wounded. Among the wounded in storming the town of Samanap was lieutenant Roch of the marines, who was speared twice by two natives, while resolutely endeavouring to wrest the colours out of the hands of a french officer. During the time that captain Harris was negotiating with the governor of Madura, lieutenant Roch with a party of marines destroyed a fort at the mouth of the river leading to Samanap, mounting 12 nine-pounders.

On the 1st of August the 32-gun frigate Quebec, captain C. S. J. Hawtayne, 16-gun brig Raven, gun-brigs Exertion and Redbreast, with two hired cutters, were cruising near the Texel, when information was obtained that a division of gun-boats lay at anchor within the island of Nordency. It was resolved to cut them out, and ten boats under the orders of lieutenant Samuel

Blyth, assisted by several officers, including lieutenant of marines Humphrey Moore, conveying altogether 117 men, shaped their course towards the coast of East Friesland. On the 2nd, in the afternoon, they came in sight of the four gun-boats, each armed with a long twelve and 2 long six or eight-pounders, and 25 men; and as soon as the British arrived within gun-shot, the enemy opened a fire of grape and canister, but in a few minutes the headmost boat was boarded and carried. Driving the crew below, the assailants turned the twelve-pounder upon the other three gun-boats; but having incautiously spilt some powder on the deck, and for want of a match fired the priming by the discharge of a pistol, the train ignited, causing an explosion which killed or wounded 19 persons, and among the latter lieutenant Moore of the marines. Notwithstanding this disaster, the other three gun-boats were compelled to surrender, with the loss of 2 men killed and 10 wounded. In this attack the British had 2 killed and 9 wounded, including lieutenants Blyth and Slout among the latter.

In order to intercept the retreat of general Janssens from Cornelis to the eastward, the *Nisus*, President, and *Phœbe* frigates, and *Hesper* sloop, were detached on the 31st of August to Cheribon, a sea-port about 35 leagues to the eastward of Batavia. On the evening of the 3rd of September the three frigates anchored off the port; and at daylight on the 4th captain Warren, having moved them close to the shore, and sent a summons to the commandant of the fort, the french colours were hauled down and the british hoisted in their stead. The marines of the three frigates, and those of the 64-gun ship *Lion*, amounting to 180 men, were landed under the command of captain G. T. Welchman and took possession of the fort, making general Janville, commander-in-chief of the french troops, and two other officers prisoners. Learning that 350 infantry and the same number of cavalry were hourly expected to arrive at Cheribon from Buitenzorg, captain Beaver landed 150 seamen to garrison the fort, leaving the marines to prepare for offensive operations

in the field, and placed three launches with carronades on the river, to enfilade the chief approaches to the place. Captain Welchman with his detachment made a forced march to Carang Samborg, about 35 miles in the interior, when the fort, containing several officers and men, capitulated, and a quantity of treasure and valuable stores were captured. On the 11th the seamen and marines re-embarked, having taken about 700 prisoners, including 237 Europeans. The *Nisus* and *Phœbe* now steered for Taggal, a port about 25 miles further to the eastward, and on the 12th took possession of the fort and public stores. The ships next proceeded to Panca, about 30 miles from Sourabaya, and having disembarked the marines, the place surrendered, and a regiment of infantry and some cavalry laid down their arms.

A detachment of marines under the command of captain Robert White landed from the 74-gun ship *Minden*, to keep open the communication with Pangorah and procure supplies for the squadron, and when acting in conjunction with a detachment of the 14th regiment, was unexpectedly attacked on the 5th of June by a considerable body of the enemy, who were repulsed after a sharp contest of fifteen minutes. At the close of this gallant affair, the remainder of the detachments of the 14th and 89th regiments with a party of small-arm men arrived up; and they had scarcely joined, when the British were again attacked by a force of 500 men with 2 field-pieces; and after a severe struggle the Dutch were defeated, with the loss of 1 captain, 3 lieutenants, and 44 men. The British sustained a loss of 25 killed and wounded.

Captain E. W. Hoare of the *Minden*, in addressing captain Sayer the senior officer of the squadron off Batavia, observes:—
“ I feel it my duty to report the conduct of captain Robert White of the Royal Marines, who commanded at the first attack, assisted by two officers of the 14th regiment. I was astonished at the bravery and coolness displayed by those officers and their men.”

The 38-gun frigate *Naiad*, captain P. Cartaret, was at anchor in Boulogne road on the 20th of September, when rear-admiral Baste, with seven french prames, each mounting 12 long twenty-four pounders and 112 men, got under way at 1 p. m. and steered for the frigate, who remained at anchor with springs on her cable. About 1 h. 40 m. the leading prame opened her fire as soon as she reached within gun-shot, and having received the frigate's in return, tacked and stood off. The six succeeding prames did the same, and at about 2 p. m. ten brigs, mounting each 4 long twenty-four pounders, joined in the cannonade. At 3 h. 30 m. p. m., it being slack water, the *Naiad* got under sail and stood off on the larboard tack ; but as the enemy's vessels had returned to the shore and anchored under the batteries, the frigate resumed her former position.

On the 21st, at 7 a. m., when the weather-tide made, the seven prames, ten brigs, one bomb-sloop, and several luggers, each mounting one gun, got under way and stood to the westward on the larboard tack, formed in two lines. At 8 h. 30 m. the *Naiad* was joined by the 18-gun brig *Castilian*, 10-gun brigs *Rinaldo* and *Redpole*, with the 8-gun cutter *Viper*, and the squadron hove to with their heads off shore, in the hope of drawing the french vessels from the protection of their numerous batteries.

At 9 h. 30 m. the leading prame of the weather-line, bearing the rear-admiral's flag, tacked in-shore, and on coming round fired her broadside. The british line at the same instant wore together by signal and bore up in chase, while the six other prames having come round, the whole crowded sail to regain the protection of their batteries. The *Naiad* now hauled up for the french admiral, while the brigs, bearing away, passed the frigate, and stood for the sternmost prame of the lee line. At 10 h. 20 m. the *Naiad*, being nearly within pistol-shot between the two lines, opened her fire on both sides, and the *Rinaldo* and *Redpole* engaged the *Ville de Lyon*, the sternmost prame of the lee line. Finding it impossible, owing to the shoal water, to reach the admiral's prame, the *Naiad*, being then on

the starboard and weather-bow of the *Ville de Lyon*, bore up, and wearing round, ran her on board; and carried her after an obstinate resistance, with a loss on the part of the enemy of more than 30 in killed and wounded. The brigs, after engaging the flotilla under the batteries, wore round and joined the *Naiad*. The loss on board the *Naiad* amounted to 2 seamen killed, lieutenant William Morgan of the marines, 1 midshipman, and 12 men wounded. The Castilian had her first-lieutenant Charles Cobb killed, and 1 seaman wounded. The defeat of the flotilla must sadly have humbled the pride of Napoléon, who with all his generals were on the heights of Boulogne, anxiously waiting the result of this gallant exploit.

On the 11th of October, in the morning, the 38-gun frigate *Impérieuse*, captain the hon. Henry Duncan, being off Possitano, in the gulph of Salerno, discovered three gun-vessels of 1 eighteen pounder and 30 men each, moored under the walls of a strong fort. Having anchored within range of grape at 11 A. M., the *Impérieuse*, after sinking one of the gun-boats, silenced the battery; but as this fort was walled all round, it was found impracticable to dislodge the crews of the gun-vessels who had sheltered themselves in it; and as that measure was necessary before possession could be taken of the remaining gun-vessels, the boats of the frigate were despatched under the orders of lieutenant Eaton Travers, assisted by lieutenant Philip Pipon of the marines. These gallant officers, at the head of a party of seamen and the whole detachment of marines, forced their way into the battery under a heavy fire of musketry from treble their numbers, and soon drove the enemy, who left only 30 men with 50 stand of arms. The twenty-four pounders mounted on the battery were then thrown over the cliff, the magazines destroyed, and two gun-vessels brought out. The only loss sustained in the execution of this dashing exploit was 1 marine killed, and 2 wounded. On the 21st of November the *Impérieuse* and *Thames* discovered ten neapolitan gun-boats in the port of Palinuro, together with a number of merchant-vessels, also a quantity of

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spars hauled up on the beach. Captain Duncan, considering that he had not sufficient force to make the attack, sent the *Thames* to Sicily, requesting that lieutenant-general Maitland would assist him with a detachment of soldiers. On the 28th the frigate returned with 250 men of the 62nd regiment, under major Darby; but as a south-west gale had just set in, it was not until the evening of the 12th of November that the troops, with the marines of both frigates under lieutenants Pipon and McAdam, and a detachment of seamen commanded by lieutenant Travers, and the whole directed by captain Charles Napier, were disembarked from the *Thames* at the back of the harbour. The detachment immediately moved forward and carried the height in gallant style under a smart fire from the French, who had assembled in force to oppose them; and who, soon after dark, made an effort to regain their position, but were compelled to retire under the heavy fire of the british troops.

Captain Duncan, finding that nothing could be done against the battery on the land side, and that a strong tower protected the vessels on the beach, captain Napier rejoined the *Thames*; and on the morning of the 2nd the frigates bore up at the commencement of the sea-breeze; and running along the line of gun-boats within half musket-shot, sunk two and compelled the rest to surrender. The ships then anchoring close to the fort, silenced it in less than 15 minutes, and soon compelled them to haul down their colours. The fort was almost immediately taken possession of by lieutenant Travers with a party of seamen and marines, who had gallantly pushed down the hill on seeing the ships stand in.

The guns of the fort (twenty-four pounders) being thrown into the sea, and the gun-boats secured, the crews of the frigates proceeded to launch the vessels and the spars. This was not accomplished until the 3rd, when the troops, who had remained in undisturbed possession of the heights, re-embarked; and the marines having been withdrawn, the tower was blown up, together with two batteries and a signal-tower on the hill. Four

gun-vessels were destroyed ; and six, mounting 1 long eighteen-pounder each; twenty-two feluccas laden with valuable cargoes, and twenty large spars having been brought off, the frigates then put to sea. In effecting this dashing enterprise the British sustained the loss of lieutenant Kay of the 62nd and 4 men killed ; lieutenant Pipon of the marines and 10 men wounded.

On the 28th of November the 38-gun frigates *Alceste* and *Active*, captains Murray Maxwell and James A. Gordon, and 36-gun frigate *Unité*, captain E. H. Chamberlayne, put to sea from the island of Lissa, in pursuit of three suspicious sail ; and on the 29th, at 9 h. 20 m. A.M., the island of Augusta in sight, discovered the french 40-gun frigates *Pauline* and *Pomone*, and the frigate-built store-ship *Persanne* of 26 guns, from Corfu since the 16th, bound to Trieste, having a quantity of iron and brass ordnance on board. As soon as they ascertained that the strangers were british ships, the french squadron bore up to the north-west under all sail, followed by the *Alceste* and her two companions ; but the *Persanne* finding that she could not keep up with her consorts, at 11 A.M. stood away to the north-east, and the *Unité* was detached in pursuit.


At 11 h. 50 m. the *Alceste* telegraphed, " Remember the battle of Lissa ;" and at about thirty minutes past noon, when the island of Pelagosa bore from that ship south-west, distant five leagues, the *Persanne* and *Unité* exchanged some firing from their chase guns. At 1 h. 20 m. the *Alceste*, then running above nine knots, with the wind abaft the larboard-beam, fired a shot, which struck the *Pomone's* larboard-quarter. The french ship immediately hoisted her colours and fired a single shot, which splintered the *Alceste's* main top-gallant mast. At this time the *Pauline* was close a-head of her consort, and in another five minutes the *Alceste* opened her broadside upon the *Pomone*, who immediately returned the fire. At 1 h. 40 m., when directly a-beam of the *Pomone*, with the prospect of soon reaching the french commodore, a shot carried away the main top-mast of the *Alceste* just above the cap, and as the wreck, with top-

gallant and royal studding-sails, fell over the starboard side, cheers of "Vive l'empereur!" resounded from both the enemy's ships. At about 2 P.M. the Active came up under all sail, and having gained a station on the lee-quarter of the Pomone, brought that ship to close action. At about 2 h. 20 m. P.M. the french commodore, setting his royals, braced up, and having presently tacked, stood for the Alceste, and the two ships became closely engaged. At about 3 h. 5 m. P.M., observing the approach of the 18-gun sloop Kingfisher, the french commodore set all sail, and stood to the westward. Soon afterwards the Active unavoidably shot a-head of her antagonist, and the firing ceased. At 3 h. 40 m. P.M., just as the Alceste had arrived up and opened her starboard broadside, the main and mizen-masts of the Pomone came down by the board, and the french frigate hoisted an english jack to signify that she had surrendered. Neither of the british frigates being now in a condition to make sail in pursuit, the Pauline escaped.

The Alceste, out of 218 men and boys, had 7 killed and 13 wounded. The Active, out of the same number of men, lost 8 killed; her captain (leg amputated), lieutenants W. B. Dashwood and George Haye, and 24 wounded. The Pomone, (whose fore-mast had now fallen,) out of 332 men and boys, had 50 killed and wounded.

Lieutenant John Meares was on board the Active; but the officers of marines of the Alceste were on shore at Hoste island, defending Lissa.

The Unité and Persanne maintained a running fight until 4 P.M., at which time the Unité got sufficiently near to open a part of her broadside. The Persanne fired hers in return, and then hauled down her colours. The Unité's sails and rigging were much cut up by the galling stern-fire of her opponent, but her loss was not greater than one seaman severely wounded. Lieutenant George Victor was serving on board the Unité in this action.



1812.

The two french 40-gun frigates *Arienne* and *Andromaque*, and 16-gun brig *Mamelouck*, sailed from Nantes on the 9th of January ; and having successfully cruised, were on their return to a french port, when on the 22nd of May, steering under all sail for l'Orient, they were discovered by the 74-gun ship *Northumberland*, captain the honourable Henry Hotham, who endeavoured to cut them off to windward of the Isle of Groix. Finding that measure impracticable, the *Northumberland* made sail round the east end of the island, and hauling close to leeward of it, was enabled to fetch to windward of l'Orient before the french squadron could reach that harbour. Thus cut off his port, the french commodore hauled up on the larboard tack to windward of Pointe Taleet, whilst the *Northumberland*, beating up between Groix and the main, was occasionally fired at by the batteries on either side. At 2 h. 49 m. P.M., the wind having freshened, the french ships, formed in close line a-head, bore up under a press of sail, with the intention of passing between the *Northumberland* and the shore.

Standing as close as possible towards Pointe de Pierre la Laye, the *Northumberland*, with her head to the shore and her main-top sail shivering, awaited the approach of the enemy's squadron : then bearing away parallel with the frigates, and within 400 yards, she opened her broadside, receiving in return an animated and well-directed fire from the ships, as well as from three batteries on the coast. The great object now was to prevent the french frigates from hauling outside the Gravel rock, and this was skilfully accomplished by Mr. H. Stewart, the master, who ran the british ship within the distance of her own length on the south-west side, and thus compelled the french squadron to steer inside the rock. With this alternative the frigates attempted the passage, and at 3 h. 45 m. P.M. they both grounded ; and in another five minutes the brig was also on the rocks, with every sail set. Leaving the enemy's ships to the effects of the falling tide, the *Northumberland*, after a twenty

minutes' cannonade, hauled off to repair her rigging and shift her top-sail. At 5 h. 25 m. P. M., just as the main-mast of the *Arienne* went by the board, the *Northumberland* anchored at the distance of 400 yards to the southward of the Graul rock, and by the means of a spring, brought her broadside to bear upon the two french frigates and brig, who were lying on the rocks with their copper exposed to view. In this position the *Northumberland* opened her starboard broadside, receiving in return a fire from three batteries; but only one of these, in the judicious station chosen by captain Hotham, could reach the ship. At 6 P. M. the *Andromaque* caught fire, and at 6 h. 45 m. her main and mizen-masts went by the board. The british ship kept up a constant and well-directed fire until 6 h. 50 m. P. M., which was near the time of low water, and she then got under way and stood out of gun-shot, having sustained a loss of 5 killed, a lieutenant and 27 men wounded.

At 8 A. M. the *Andromaque* blew up; but it was not until 10 P. M. the *Arienne* was observed to be on fire, and the flames soon burst forth from every port of the hull with unextinguishable fury. The brig was at that time on her beam ends; and as nothing further remained to be done, the *Northumberland* at 30 minutes past midnight stood out to sea. The officers of marines of the *Northumberland* were captain Nathaniel Cole, with lieutenants Mountford and Smithwick.

On the 29th of December the united states 44-gun frigate *Constitution*, at 2 P. M., in latitude $13^{\circ} 6'$ south, longitude 30° west, descried the 38-gun frigate *Java*, captain Henry Lambert, with an american prize in tow. Casting off the ship, the *Java* at 8 A. M. bore up in chase of the *Constitution*, who at 10 h. 45 m. tacked and stood towards the stranger, supposing her to have been her consort the *Essex*; but finding the private signal unanswered, she wore from the *Java*, and setting her main-sail and royals, kept away free, followed by the british frigate, who at 1 h. 40 m. had closed to within two miles; when the *Constitution*, having shortened sail to top-gallant sails, jib, and

spanker, luffed to the wind. The Java, placing herself under the same canvas as her opponent, stood directly for her; and at 2 h. 10 m. P. M., when within half a mile, the Constitution opened a fire from her larboard guns, and a second broadside was discharged before the Java returned the fire from a position close upon the larboard-bow of her antagonist. After a third broadside the Constitution bore up, followed by the Java; but having hauled upon the larboard tack, at 2 h. 25 m. the action was renewed, the American occasionally bearing away, evidently with a desire to take advantage of her long guns. Finding himself closely pursued, captain Bainbridge at 2 h. 43 m. P. M. hauled up for his opponent, and bringing to, close to leeward of her, both ships were warmly engaged for a short time, and the Constitution again bore up. The Java, having had the head of her bowsprit shot way, and consequently no head-sail set, hove in stays with the intention of pursuing her antagonist. Seeing this, the Constitution hauled up and raked her astern; but as the Java paid off, both ships bore away, and she was enabled very shortly to range up alongside to windward, and within pistol-shot of her opponent. In another ten minutes the Java had suffered so considerably, that captain Lambert, as a last resource, determined on boarding: at 3 h. 8 m. P. M. the british ship bore up for that purpose, and would have laid the Constitution on board at her larboard main-chains, had not the fore-mast at that instant fallen forward, and crushed the fore-castle. The remains of the Java's bowsprit passing over the american's stern, caught in her starboard mizen-rigging and brought the ships up on the wind. In this situation the Java lay at the mercy of her antagonist, who at 3 h. 15 m. wore across her bows, and pouring in a heavy fire, shot away her main top-mast, the wreck disabling the greater part of her larboard guns. The Constitution, after passing her almost defenceless opponent, luffed up and raked her on the starboard quarter; then wearing round and resuming her former position, poured in a destructive broadside from her larboard guns. At 3 h. 30 m. captain Lambert was mortally

wounded by a musket-ball, and the command devolved upon lieutenant H. D. Chads, who, although wounded in the early part of the action, still remained at his post. Shortly after 4 P.M. the Java's mizen-mast was shot away, but the engagement was still maintained with great spirit until 4 h. 25 m. P.M. At that time the Constitution, having reduced her antagonist to a very feeble resistance, made sail a-head to repair her damages, leaving the Java a perfect wreck, rolling her main-deck guns in the water, with only her tottering main-mast standing. At 5 h. 45 m. P.M. the commodore placed his ship athwart the bows of her defenceless opponent, whose main-mast had been cut away to prevent its falling in-board; and as the greater part of her guns on the quarter-deck and forecastle, and several of those on the main-deck, were disabled, the british colours were struck from the stump of the Java's mizen-mast at 6 h. P.M. Out of a crew and supernumeraries of 354 men and 23 boys, the Java had 3 master's-mates, 2 midshipmen, and 17 killed; her captain (mortally), her first-lieutenant, master, second-lieutenant of marines David Davies, boatswain, 4 midshipmen, and 94 wounded. Total, 22 killed and 102 wounded. The Constitution had 10 men killed and, above 40 wounded. Lieutenant Robert Mercer commanded the detachment of marines.

On the 9th of May the 64-gun ships America and Leviathan, captains Josias Rowley and Patrick Campbell, and 18-gun brig Eclair, chased eighteen deeply laden vessels, which took shelter under the town and batteries of Languelia. Considering it practicable to capture or destroy this convoy, by first taking possession of the batteries, it was determined to make the attack; and accordingly, at day-break on the 10th the marines of both ships, amounting to about 250 men, under captains Henry Rea and John Owen, lieutenants John Neame, William Beddeck Cock, Paul Kyffin Carden, and John George Hill, were despatched on this service. An accident occurred in landing of a serious nature, occasioned by a shot sinking the yawl of the America; and before assistance could be rendered, 10 marines and 1 seaman

were drowned. Captain Owen was detached to carry a battery of 5 twenty-four pounders to the eastward, which service was accomplished in the most judicious and gallant manner, the french officer commanding the post falling in its defence. The main body of the marines in the mean time, rapidly advancing through a discharge of grape, rushed on with the bayonet and carried the battery adjoining the town of Languelia, mounting 4 twenty-four and eighteen-pounders, and 1 mortar, protected by a strong body of the enemy posted in the wood and several contiguous buildings; upon which the guns of the battery were immediately turned with much effect.

The Eclair having swept in close to the shore, opened a smart fire, which speedily dislodged the french troops from the houses lining the beach; and the boats of the squadron, after considerable exertion, brought away sixteen laden settees. The marines were re-embarked, under cover of the fire of the Eclair, without any molestation from the french troops, although a strong reinforcement was approaching them from the town of Allassio. Exclusive of the casualty in landing, this dashing enterprise was accomplished with the loss of 1 serjeant and 3 privates of marines, and 1 seaman killed; 18 marines and 2 seamen wounded. Total, killed and drowned 16, wounded 20.

On the evening of the 31st of May, a large division of boats from the british fleet cruising off Toulon was placed under the orders of captain Harward, to make an attempt upon the vessels and batteries in the harbour of Ciotat. About 1 A.M. on the 1st of June, the expedition moved towards the shore in perfect order, and had arrived so close to the object of attack as to be hailed by the french sentries. At this moment of excitement, in expectation of the order to push rapidly forward, the officer in command seemed to hesitate, and to the surprise and disappointment of every one the *gallant leader* pulled back towards the squadron, directing the other boats to follow his example. By this time the enemy were apprized of the situation of the British; and as daylight was now appearing, they were

exposed to a heavy fire from the batteries as the boats repassed the Isle Verte on their return to their respective ships.

At 7 h. 30 m. A. M. the detachments of marines of the *Furieuse* and *Menelaus*, (which had formed part of the expedition to La Ciotat,) under lieutenants James Whylock, George Benyon, William Davis, and John Wilcocks, were ordered to land on the Isle Verte, to attack a demi-lune battery which the French had partly completed. This object was soon accomplished, for the detachment on landing immediately drove out the enemy, and then pursued them over the brow of a hill, until they were assailed by the fire of a battery at Ciotat; notwithstanding this opposition, the marines held their position until a party of seamen had demolished the battery on the island. Having fully accomplished this service, the British re-embarked; having sustained the loss of 1 lieutenant of the navy killed, and 4 men wounded by the fire of the battery at Ciotat; lieutenant W. Davis of the marines wounded by a musket-ball in his right thigh, and 2 privates slightly.

A large convoy of eighteen square and latteen-rigged vessels having assembled at Langulia and Alassio, captain Patrick Campbell, with the *Leviathan* 74, *Impérieuse* and *Curaçoa* frigates, and *Eclair* brig, proceeded to attack the place; and on the 27th of June the marines of these ships, numbering about 180 men, under the command of captain John Owen, with lieutenants William B. Cock, John Neame, Henry Ivatt Delacombe, George Gunn, and G. Nelson, were landed, just before day-break, between the towns of Alassio and Languelia. Here they were opposed by a strong picquet of the enemy who kept up a galling fire; by which 2 seamen were killed, and lieutenant Walpole of the *Impérieuse*, who had charge of landing the marines, severely wounded.

Having rapidly formed on the beach, captain Owen detached 50 men to the right, under lieutenant Cock, who was soon seen gallantly skirmishing with the enemy towards Alassio. In the mean time, the captain had moved with the main body to the

left, and being annoyed by a fire from a wood, sent out a small party to cover his right flank. After advancing about a mile, the British were opposed by about 250 men of the french 52nd regiment, supported by a strong body of national guards posted in front of the town of Languelia. Having formed up and fired a volley, the marines dashed at the enemy with the bayonet; and the French, on giving way, fled into a barrack in their rear, where they were instantly pursued, the building stormed, and an officer and a considerable number of men made prisoners. Captain Owen then attacked and carried a battery mounting 5 guns and a mortar, which position was maintained for several hours; and having spiked the guns and destroyed their carriages, the detachment re-embarked under cover of the Leviathan's fire. Notwithstanding the three ships had anchored within musket-shot of the two towns, and the Eclair had kept sweeping when she could be of the most effect, the French could not be expelled from the houses; and as the vessels were effectually moored to the shore, with their sails unbent and rudders removed, all further attempts to bring them off were relinquished. The total loss incurred by the British in this gallant enterprise, amounted to 9 killed and 21 wounded.

The 64-gun ship Dictator, captain James P. Stewart, cruising off the coast of Norway, in company with the 18-gun brig Calypso, 14-gun brig Podargus, and gun-brig Flamer, was off Mardoe on the evening of the 6th of July, when the mast-heads of a danish squadron were seen over the rocks, who proved to be the 40-gun frigate Nayaden, carrying 20 four-pounders on the main deck, with the 18-gun brigs Laaland, Samsøe, and Kiel. The british ships immediately stood in to attack them, led by the Podargus; who having unfortunately taken the ground just as she had entered the passage, the Flamer was left to attend her, whilst captain Stewart continued to stand on with the Dictator and Calypso. At about 7 h. 30 m. p.m., the two vessels had arrived within a mile of the danish frigate and her consorts, who were running under a press of sail inside the

rocks, and at about 8 P.M. the Dictator, followed by the Calypso, became warmly engaged with the danish squadron and several gun-boats who had joined them. After having run twelve miles through a passage in some places scarcely wide enough to admit the studding-sails to be run out, the Dictator grounded at 9 h. 30 m. P.M. within pistol-shot, with her broadside bearing upon the danish frigate and the three brigs, who had anchored close together, with springs on their cables, in the small creek of Lyngoe. The action was so well maintained by the two british ships, that the Nayaden was literally battered to pieces, the three brigs compelled to haul down their colours; and such of the gun-boats as were not sunk, to seek their safety in flight. The Dictator was no sooner afloat than she was again attacked by the gun-boats, but the Calypso quickly drove them from their position. In the mean time the Flamer having also grounded near the Podargus, both vessels were warmly engaged by another division of gun-boats, as well as the batteries; but at length, by the exertion of their crews, the brigs got afloat. At 3 A.M. on the 7th, as the Dictator and Calypso were returning, accompanied by two of the danish brigs, they were so sharply assailed from behind the rocks by a division of gun-boats, that the prizes were abandoned. In this bold enterprise the Dictator had 5 killed and 22 wounded; Podargus 9 wounded; Calypso 3 killed and 1 wounded; Flamer 1 killed and 3 wounded. Total, 9 killed, 35 wounded, and 2 missing. Captain Joseph Triscott, with lieutenants James Baker and F. M. M'Namara, were serving on board the Dictator.

On the 1st of August the 38-gun frigate Horatio, captain lord George Stuart, in latitude 70° 40' north, running down the coast of Norway, discovered a cutter close in-shore. Four boats were despatched to attempt her capture, under the orders of lieutenant A. M. Hawkins, assisted by lieutenant T. J. P. Masters, and lieutenant George Syder of the marines. Having obtained information that the cutter had gone to a village on an arm of the sea, about thirty-five miles distant overland, lieutenant

Hawkins detached one of the boats to disperse some small-arm men collected on the shore, and with the other three proceeded for the creek where the vessel was lying.

On the 2nd at 8 A.M. the cutter, mounting 4 six-pounders and a crew of 22 men, was discovered at anchor, in company with a danish schooner of 6 six-pounders and thirty men, and an american ship of 400 tons their prize. Although the danish vessels were moored with springs on their cables in an excellent position of defence, the British boldly advanced to the attack, and having gallantly boarded both vessels under a heavy fire, they succeeded, after a sanguinary combat, in gaining possession of them. In this affair the British sustained a severe loss: lieutenant Syder of the marines, 7 seamen, and 1 marine were killed; lieutenants Hawkins and Masters, and an assistant-surgeon, a midshipman and the boatswain, 9 seamen, and 2 marines wounded. Total, 9 killed, 16 wounded. The Danes had 10 killed, and 13 wounded.

On the 31st of August, while the 38-gun frigate *Bacchante*, captain William Hoste, was lying at anchor at Rovigno, on the south-west coast of Istria, information was brought that several vessels laden with ship-timber were at Port Lemo. On the same day captain Hoste despatched five boats, containing 62 officers and men, under lieutenant D. H. O'Brien, assisted by several officers, including lieutenant of marines William Haig. Having captured two vessels at the entrance of the harbour, it was ascertained that the seven timber-vessels were lying under protection of a french xebec of four guns and 28 men, and two gun-boats of 22 men each. Leaving one of the boats in charge of the captured vessels, the remaining four boats dashed on to the attack, and carried all before them, without incurring any loss.

On the 18th of September, when off the coast of Apulia, the *Bacchante* at day-break discovered an enemy's convoy between the islands of Tremitti and Vasto, standing along shore to the north-west. Baffling winds preventing the frigate from closing, captain Hoste despatched six boats under the orders of lieute-

nant O'Brien, again assisted by lieutenant Haig of the marines. On the approach of the boats, the eighteen merchant vessels were hauled on shore, having outside of them eight armed vessels, mounting together 8 long twelve-pounders, 6 swivels, with 104 men. Besides this force, the crews of the merchant vessels lined a thick wood with musketry, completely commanding the coast. Nothing daunted by this formidable preparation, the boats, dashing on under a tremendous fire of grape and musketry, boarded and carried the vessels; while the marines headed by their intrepid leader having landed, lieutenant Haig forced the fugitives from the wood, and secured the possession of the whole convoy, with the armed vessels protecting it. To enhance the value of this second exploit, it was achieved with the trifling loss of 2 men wounded.

On the 21st of February the 74-gun ship *Victorious*, captain John Talbot, in company with the 18-gun brig *Weasel*, when off Venice, at 2 h. 30 m. P.M. descried a brig in the north-east, and shortly afterwards a large ship, with two more brigs and two settees. The strangers proved to be the french 74-gun ship *Rivoli*, with the *Jena* and *Mercure* of 16, the *Mamelouck* of 8 guns, and two gun-boats, on their way from Venice, bound to the port of Pola, in Istria. The *Victorious* and *Weasel* were soon under all sail, and gained so rapidly on the enemy, that at 4 h. 15 m. P.M. the *Weasel* brought the sternmost brig, the *Mercure*, to action, and in a short time the *Jena* closed to support her consort. After a close and well-directed fire upon the *Mercure* for twenty minutes, the french brig blew up. In the mean time the *Victorious* closed with the *Rivoli*, and at 4 h. 30 m., having a light air of wind on her larboard bow, she opened her starboard broadside, and instantly received the fire of the french ship. A furious engagement now ensued between the two ships, as they continued standing on towards the gulf of Trieste, with courses brailed up and royals set. In the early part of the contest captain Talbot received a severe contusion from a splinter, which nearly deprived him of his sight, and the

command devolved upon lieutenant Thomas Ladd Peake. After three hours' mutual cannonade, the Rivoli was nearly silenced, when the Weasel arrived up, and placing herself across the seventy-four's bows, poured in a destructive raking fire. At 8 h. 45 m. the Victorious shot away her mizen-mast, and a short time before 9 h. P.M. the Rivoli fired a lee gun, and hailed that she had struck. The Victorious, out of a crew of 506, sustained a loss of lieutenant Thomas H. Griffiths of the marines, and 25 seamen and marines killed; her captain, lieutenant Robert S. Ashbridge of the marines (mortally), and 97 wounded. Captain Talbot speaks most favourably of the conduct of captain Robert Stevens of the marines.

On the 19th of August the 38-gun frigate *Guerrière*, captain James Richard Dacres, in latitude $40^{\circ} 20'$, north longitude 55° west, being on the starboard tack under easy sail, at 2 P.M. discovered the united-states 44-gun frigate *Constitution*, bearing down towards her with a fresh breeze from the north-west; and when she had arrived within about three miles of the british ship, shortened sail to double-reefed top-sails. At about 4 h. 50 m. the *Guerrière* discharged her broadside at too great a distance to take any effect, but the fire of the *Constitution*, reserved until 5 P.M., was not thrown away. The *Guerrière*, to avoid being raked, wore several times, while her opponent kept up a steady and destructive cannonade, and at 5 h. 45 m. she brought the british frigate to close action. At 6 h. 5 m. the *Guerrière*'s mizen-mast was shot away by the board, which falling over the starboard quarter, brought the ship up in the wind. The *Constitution* then bearing up, placed herself on her opponent's larboard bow, and a sweeping and destructive fire was poured into the british frigate, whose bow-guns were all she could get to bear. At 6 h. 15 m. the two ships fell on board each other, the *Guerrière*'s bowsprit foul of her opponent's mizen-rigging, and an attempt was made by the Americans to board; but the steady fire of the british marines having killed several of the leaders, it prevented the enemy from making any further effort

to reach the deck, which was so ably defended. In a few minutes the two ships got clear, and as the *Guerrière* dropped astern, her bowsprit struck on the taffrail of the *Constitution*, which slackened the fore-stay of the british ship; and the fore-shrouds on the weather side being mostly shot away, the mast fell over the starboard side; and as it crossed the main-stay, the sudden jerk carried the main-mast along with it, leaving the *Guerrière* a defenceless wreck, rolling her main-deck guns in the water. The *Constitution* now ranged a-head, and having rove new braces, took a position on the *Guerrière*'s starboard quarter; and at 6 h. 45 m. the british frigate, being incapable of further resistance, hauled down the union jack on the stump of her mizen-mast. Out of 244 men and 19 boys, the *Guerrière* sustained a loss of one lieutenant, 11 seamen, and 3 marines killed; her captain (severely), her master, two master's-mates, one midshipman, 43 seamen, 13 marines, and 1 boy wounded. The *Constitution*, out of a crew of 468 men and boys, had 7 killed and 7 wounded. Captain Dacres, in his official report of the action, says, "Lieutenant M'Nicol and his party supported the honourable character of their corps, and they suffered severely."

On the 12th of October, soon after daylight, the 38-gun frigate *Macedonian*, captain J. S. Carden, in latitude 29° north, longitude 29° 30' west, discovered the american 44-gun frigate *United States*, about 12 miles to leeward, and bore away in chase. At about 7 h. 30 m. they had approached within 3 miles, and both ships hoisted their colours. At 8 h. 45 m. the *United States* hauled sharp upon the larboard tack: captain Carden, desirous to keep the weather-gage, hauled up also, and at 9 A. M., when abreast of the american frigate on the opposite tack, the *Macedonian* received her passing fire; then, having wore, placed herself at 9 h. 20 m. on the larboard-quarter of the *United States*. The action now began in earnest, both ships steering free, and the diagonal fire of the American, who kept before the beam of her opponent, in a short time dismounted every carro-

nade upon the larboard battery of the british frigate. Having thus disabled his antagonist, commodore Decatur, at 10 h. 14 m. A.M., laid her main top-sail to the mast, and allowed the Macedonian to come to close action.

About 11 A.M. the mizen-mast of the Macedonian was shot away by the board, and fell over the starboard and engaged side ; her fore and main top-masts were also gone, her main-yard in the slings, her rigging destroyed, two guns on the main and all on the upper-deck disabled, and owing to the heavy sea and her dismasted state, she was rolling her main-deck guns in the water. In this desperate condition the Macedonian made an attempt to board her opponent, and at 11 h. 40 m., when the crew were all on deck prepared for the assault, and the helms put up for that purpose, the fore-brace was shot away, and the yard swinging round, threw the ship up in the wind. The United States having expended her powder, now stood across the bows of the british ship and ranged a-head, until she was prepared to renew the action. She then tacked, and about noon placed herself in a raking position athwart the stern of her defenceless antagonist ; who, having no means of making a further resistance, struck her colours. Out of 254 men and boys, the Macedonian sustained the severe loss of 36 killed and 68 wounded ; whilst the United States had only 5 men killed and 6 wounded. Lieutenants John Wilson and — Magill were serving on board the Macedonian.

During the operations before Cadiz, the cool and determined courage of a gunner of marine artillery, serving under lieutenant Beauchamp on board the Hound bomb, saved that ship, and the lives of all on board, from immediate destruction. A red-hot shot struck the bomb-vessel on the side of the filling-room, but being nearly at the extent of its range, it only penetrated half-way through ; and this occurred at a time when the ship was engaged with the enemy, and more bursting-powder was in the filling-room than required. John Collard, with great presence of mind, overcame the imminent danger of the powder about

him taking fire, by drowning it with water, and then proceeded to extinguish the burning timbers and the shot. For this praiseworthy conduct, Collard was immediately promoted to the rank of corporal.

In consequence of a mutiny that took place on board the 38-gun frigate *Resistance*, captain Fleetwood Pellew, while that ship was lying in Madeline Roads, Sardinia, the ship's company were turned over to other ships ; and first-lieutenant William Clarke (August 1805) was sent on board the *San Josef*. On the 5th of November, 1813, that ship, in company with nine other ships of the line, became engaged with the french fleet of fourteen sail of the line off the harbour of Toulon ; but the enemy, having the weather-gage, were enabled to reach the port in safety. The casualties on either side were but trifling : one unlucky shot, which fell on the poop of the *San Josef*, struck off the right leg of lieutenant Clarke, and the left leg of midshipman William Cuppage.

Lieutenant Clarke being incapacitated for military duty, applied to the Admiralty for a staff appointment ; but this gallant and promising officer was placed on the half-pay list on the 1st of January, 1816.

CHAPTER V.

FROM THE YEAR 1813 TO 1815.

As the 38-gun frigate *Bacchante*, captain William Hoste, and 18-gun sloop *Weasel* were lying becalmed on the 6th January, when about five leagues to the south-east of Cape Otranto, at the mouth of the Adriatic, five gun-vessels were discovered,—two in the south-east steering to the eastward, and three in the south-west sailing towards Otranto. Leaving the *Weasel* to attend to those in the south-east, captain Hoste detached the boats of the frigate, under the orders of lieutenant D. H. O'Brien, assisted by several officers of the ship, including lieutenant William Haig of the marines, in pursuit of the three in the direction of Otranto. At 8 A. M. the nearest gun-boat, mounting 1 twelve and 1 six-pounder, with 36 men, was captured; and her guns having been turned upon the retreating boats, both surrendered to the British, without any loss on either side.

On the 14th of February, early in the morning, the barge of the *Bacchante*, armed with a twelve-pounder carronade, and manned with 23 men and officers under lieutenant Hood, assisted by lieutenant William Haig of the marines, chased a vessel steering for Otranto. After a discharge of round-shot and musketry from the barge, the British boarded and carried the french gun-vessel *Alcinous*, of 2 long twenty-pounders and 45 men, last from Corfu. Lieutenant Hood, who received a severe contusion by a fall, was the only loss on the part of the British; but the French had 2 men killed and 9 wounded.

On the 15th of May captain Hoste proceeded off the port of

Karlebago, in consequence of information that a convoy was lying in that channel. As the works of defence of this place offered excellent protection to the enemy's vessels, it was determined to attempt their destruction. Accordingly, the Bacchante anchored within pistol-shot of the battery, which mounted 8 guns, and opened a smart fire, that induced the governor to surrender the place at discretion. The marines under lieutenant William Haig, and a party of seamen under lieutenant Hood, were then landed, and having taken possession, the guns of the place were embarked, the public works destroyed, and the castle blown up. In the execution of this service, 4 seamen were severely wounded. Captain Hoste, speaking of the gallant conduct of lieutenant Haig, observes, "He lets no opportunity escape of distinguishing himself."

On the 12th of June, at daylight, a convoy was discovered about six miles to windward of the Bacchante, lying under the town of Gela-Nova, on the coast of Abruzzza. The boats were soon despatched under the orders of lieutenant Hood, assisted by several officers, including lieutenants of marines Charles Holmes and William Haig. On approaching the convoy it was found to consist of fourteen sail of merchant vessels, protected by seven large gun-boats, each mounting one long eighteen-pounder in the bow, and three smaller gun-vessels with one four-pounder each; moreover, the beach was lined with troops, having with them two field-pieces. Notwithstanding this vast superiority of force, the attack was instantly determined upon; and, as captain Hoste states, "was executed with all the gallantry and spirit which men accustomed to danger and to despise it have so frequently shown; and never was there a finer display of it than on this occasion." The boats dashed on under a heavy discharge of grape and musketry; and it was not until they were fairly alongside of the gun-boats that the enemy slackened their fire. The marines having landed, drove the troops, amounting to about 100 men, from the beach, and the

two field-pieces were destroyed. In the performance of this brilliant exploit the British sustained a loss of 2 seamen and 1 marine killed; 5 seamen and 1 marine wounded.

The 74-gun ship *San Domingo*, bearing the flag of admiral sir J. B. Warren, *Marlborough* 74, rear-admiral Cockburn, with *Maidstone* and *Statira* frigates, and the two brigs *Fantome* and *Mohawk*, arrived abreast of the river *Rappahannock* in their way up the *Chesapeake* on the 10th of February, when five large schooners were discovered and chased into the river by the smaller vessels of the squadron; and as it fell calm, the boats of the several ships, containing 105 officers and men under the command of lieutenant James Polkinghorne, were sent in pursuit. After a row of fifteen miles the British came up with the schooners, who were formed in line a-head, fully prepared for a resolute defence, consisting of the *Arab* of 7 guns and 45 men, *Lynx* of 6 guns and 40 men, *Racer* of 6 guns and 36 men, and *Dolphin* of 12 guns and 98 men. Nothing daunted by this formidable force, the boats dashed forward to the assault. The *Arab* was boarded and carried by the *Marlborough's* two boats; the *Lynx* hauled down her colours as the pinnacle of the *San Domingo* arrived alongside; and the *Racer* was then carried by lieutenant Polkinghorne, after a sharp resistance. The guns of this vessel were now turned upon the *Dolphin* as the boats of the *Statira* and *Maidstone* were approaching, by whom she was gallantly boarded and carried. In this affair the loss sustained by the British amounted to one seamen and one marine killed; lieutenants Polkinghorne and Brand, lieutenant of marines William Richard Flint, one midshipman, and 7 seamen and marines wounded. The Americans lost 6 men killed and 10 wounded. The captured schooners were fine vessels, measuring from 200 to 220 tons, and two were commissioned as 14-gun schooners, under the names of *Shelburne* and *Musquedobit*.

Rear-admiral Cockburn now proceeded up the river at the head of the bay, to cut off the enemy's supplies, and to destroy the foundries and public works.

On the evening of the 28th the squadron anchored, and the

rear-admiral, taking with him the brigs and smaller vessels, embarked 150 marines in the boats under captains Marmaduke Wybourn and Thomas Carter, with 5 artillery-men under lieutenant Robertson ; but owing to a mistake in entering the Bohemia, instead of the Elk river, the boats did not reach the destined place till late in the following morning. This delay enabled the inhabitants of Frenchtown to make preparations for its defence, and for their security a six-gun battery had lately been erected, from which a heavy fire was opened upon the boats as they approached. Disregarding this reception, the marines quickly landed, and the american militia fled from the battery to the adjoining woods. After destroying a quantity of military stores, together with five vessels near the place, the guns were disabled, and the marines re-embarked without sustaining any loss.

On the 6th of February, in the morning, the 38-gun frigate *Amelia*, captain the honourable Frederick Paul Irby, when cruising off the Isle de Los, on the coast of Africa, discovered two french frigates at anchor off the north-end of Tamara, who were observed to interchange signals ; and at 3 h. 20 m. the 40-gun frigate *Aréthuse*, captain Bouvet, weighed and made sail towards the british frigate, but in the evening the enemy's ship was no longer visible. On the 7th, at 6 h. 45 m. A.M., the *Amelia* discovered the *Aréthuse* about eight miles distant, and the weather being calm, it kept both ships stationary until noon, when a light breeze enabled the french ship to stand towards the *Amelia* ; whilst the latter also made sail with the intention of drawing the *Aréthuse* from her consort, the 40-gun frigate *Rubis*, whose helpless condition, from having been on shore, was not then known to captain Irby.

At 5 P.M. the *Amelia*, having shortened sail to her top-sails, wore round, and running with the wind on the starboard quarter, steered to pass, and then cross the stern of the *Aréthuse*, who was standing under the same canvas, close hauled on the larboard tack. At 7 h. 20 m. the *Aréthuse* tacked to the south-west, and at 7 h. 45 m., just as the *Amelia* had arrived within pistol-shot upon her starboard and weather bow, the french frigate opened

her fire, which was immediately returned. After about three broadsides had been exchanged, the main top-sail of the *Amelia*, from the braces having been shot away, fell aback; and in consequence of this accident, instead of crossing her opponent as she intended, the *Amelia* fell on board of her, the jib-boom of the *Aréthuse* carrying away the *Amelia*'s jib and jib-stay, and the anchor fluke tearing away part of the british ship's larboard forecastle barricade. A heavy fire of musketry now opened from the tops and mast-heads of the french frigate, and several hand-grenades were thrown on the *Amelia*'s decks, while the appearance of several men in the rigging of the *Aréthuse* showed their intention to board; but finding that the steady and well-directed fire of the british marines defeated that object, the *Aréthuse* threw all aback, and dropped clear. The *Amelia*, setting her stay-sails, endeavoured to get her head towards her antagonist, and in attempting a second time to cross her bow, again fell on board her, and the two ships now swang close alongside each other: this was at 9 h. 15 m. P.M., a fine moonlight night, with the sea as smooth as a mill-pond. A scene of mutual slaughter ensued, such as is unparalleled on board a british ship in the annals of naval warfare, and the heavy fire of the enemy's musketry nearly cleared the decks of the *Amelia* of both officers and men. Among those who fell were the first and second-lieutenants, J. J. Bate and J. Pope, and lieutenant of marines Robert G. Grainger. Captain Irby was severely wounded, and the command devolved upon the third-lieutenant, George Wells, who shortly afterwards was killed at his post, when Mr. Anthony De Mayne, the master, took the command. The concussion of the guns probably forced the frigates apart, and in the almost calm state of the weather they gradually receded, with their broadsides still mutually bearing, until 11 h. 20 m. P.M.; when both combatants, being nearly out of gunshot, ceased firing. Both captains claimed the victory: captain Irby says, "The *Aréthuse*, having the advantage to make sail, bore up, leaving us in an ungovernable state;" whilst captain

Bouvet observes, "At eleven o'clock the fire ceased on both sides; we were no longer within fair gun-shot, and the enemy, crowding sail, abandoned to us the field of battle."

Owing to the smooth state of the sea, neither ship lost a spar; nevertheless the *Amelia's* masts and yards were all badly wounded, her rigging cut to pieces, and her hull much shattered. Including the crew of the *Daring* gun-brig, the *Amelia* had at quarters 349 men and boys: of that number her 3 lieutenants (already named), lieutenant Pascoe, late commander of the *Daring*, her second-lieutenant of marines, 1 midshipman, the purser of the *Thais* (of his second wound), 29 seamen, 7 marines, and 3 boys killed; her captain (severely,) lieutenant Reeve (of the *Kangaroo*), the master (already named), first-lieutenant of marines John Simpson, the purser's boatswain, 1 master's mate, 4 midshipmen, 56 seamen (2 mortally), 25 marines (3 mortally), and 3 boys wounded. Total, 51 killed and died of their wounds, and 90 wounded. Out of 340 men, the *Aréthuse* had 31 killed, including 11 officers, and 74 men wounded.

On the 18th of March the 38-gun frigate *Undaunted*, captain Thomas Ussher, chased a tartan under the battery of Carri, situated about five leagues to the westward of Marseilles. The prevailing light winds preventing the approach of the ship, the boats were despatched under lieutenant A. Tozer, assisted by several officers, and among that number lieutenant of marines Harry Hunt. The British landed, and in a short time carried a battery mounting 4 twenty-four pounders, a six-pounder field-piece, and a thirteen-inch mortar. The french troops, strongly posted behind pallisades, stood until the marines advanced with the bayonet, when the enemy turned and suffered a severe loss. The guns in the battery were all destroyed, the tartan brought out, and the boats returned to the ship, having sustained no greater loss than 2 men killed and 1 wounded.

On the 30th of March the *Undaunted*, in company with the 38-gun frigate *Volontaire*, captain the honourable G. G. Waldegrave, and 18-gun brig *Redwing*, despatched their boats, under

the orders of lieutenant Isaac Shaw, assisted by lieutenants of marines William Burton and Harry Hunt, to attempt the capture of a convoy in the harbour of Morgion, situated between Marseilles and Toulon. On the 31st, in the morning, the party landed at Soarion, and marching over the hills at daylight, attacked two batteries in the rear, which were both carried after a slight resistance. Five thirty-six pounders in one, and 2 twenty-four pounders in the other battery, were then thrown into the sea, a mortar spiked, and all their ammunition destroyed. The boats in the mean time captured eleven vessels, and the whole service was accomplished with no greater loss than 1 marine killed, 2 marines and 2 seamen wounded.

On the 2nd of May the boats of the 74-gun ship *Repulse*, *Volontaire* and *Undaunted* frigates, were detached, conveying the marines under the command of captain Edward Michael Ennis, with lieutenants William Burton, Harry Hunt, and some other officers, to destroy the newly-erected works in the vicinity of Morgion. The marines landed and drove a detachment of french troops to the heights in the rear of the harbour, where they were kept in check until the boats under lieutenant J. Shaw, covered by the launches with their carronades, and by the *Redwing* sloop, brought out some vessels that were in the harbour; and then the batteries, on which were found nine gun-carriages and a mortar, were destroyed. On this occasion lieutenant Shaw was wounded; and in the boats, 2 men were killed and 3 wounded.

On the 22nd of March the boats of the 36-gun frigate *Havannah*, captain the honourable George Cadogan, under the orders of lieutenant William Hamley, assisted by lieutenant of marines William Hockley, captured a large trabaccolo, mounting 3 long french eight-pounders, lying under the town of Vasto; and on the 26th the same officers captured five armed trabaccolos and five feluccas laden with salt, near the town of Fortore. In both instances the vessels were hauled aground, and were under the protection of a strong body of musketry and some guns on the

beach. Only 2 men were slightly wounded in accomplishing this enterprise. On the 17th of June, in the morning, the boats, commanded as before, landed near the town of Vasto, and brought off ten vessels from under the protection of eight guns.

On the 18th of January, 1813, the 38-gun frigate *Apollo*, captain B. W. Taylor, with four gun-boats, having on board 250 troops under lieutenant-colonel Robertson, were detached by rear-admiral Thomas Freemantle to attack the island of Augusta, in the Adriatic, and on the 29th the place surrendered. Leaving a small garrison there, the frigate and the gun-boats sailed on the 1st of February for the neighbouring island of Curzola; and on the same night 160 soldiers, 70 seamen, and 50 marines, the latter under lieutenants John Tothill and Colin Campbell, with a howitzer, landed at Port Buffalo, and carried a post on an eminence that commanded the town. Notwithstanding the british troops had taken their guns to this spot, and their advance was already in possession of the suburbs, the enemy appeared so determined to hold out, that captain Taylor recalled the seamen on board the frigate. On the morning of the 3rd the *Apollo* attacked and silenced the sea-batteries, after sustaining a loss of 2 seamen killed and 1 wounded, and this result led to an immediate capitulation.

On the night of the 11th of April three boats from the 38-gun frigate *Apollo*, and two from the 32-gun frigate *Cerberus*, were detached to take temporary possession of the Devil's island, near the north entrance of Corfu. On the 14th the two frigates having chased a vessel into Malero, the five boats immediately proceeded to attack her, and in the execution of that service lieutenant Delafosse and Mr. Ullock, purser of the *Apollo*, were wounded. Captain Taylor soon afterwards landed the marines, and after some skirmishing captured the island.

On the 24th, at daylight, observing a felucca run into St. Cataldo and disembark troops, 30 marines under lieutenants John Tothill and Colin Campbell were landed, and by a resolute advance with the bayonet, dislodged the enemy from a

strong position and took 26 prisoners, without sustaining any loss ; but the French had 1 killed and several wounded. In the mean time the boats brought out the felucca, and the marines re-embarked.


On the night of the 5th of May the same detachment of marines again embarked in the boats, and proceeded up the river Sassafras towards the villages of Georgetown and Fredericktown, situate on the opposite banks, and nearly facing each other. Having advanced to within a mile from the towns, and between two projecting points of land, which compelled the boats to proceed in close order, a heavy fire was opened upon them from a field-piece, and from between 300 and 400 militia divided and intrenched on the opposite side of the river. The fire was quickly returned, and the rear-admiral pushed on shore with the marines ; but the american militia fled as soon as the British had landed, and were neither seen or heard of afterwards. Four vessels were destroyed, together with some stores on the banks of the river. On this occasion the only loss sustained was 5 men wounded. On the 12th of June the boats of the 32-gun frigate *Narcissus*, captain J. R. Lumley, containing about 40 men under lieutenant Crie and lieutenant of marines Patrick Savage, were despatched to cut out the united-states schooner, *Surveyor*, mounting 6 twelve-pounder carronades, lying up York river in the Chesapeake. The Americans opened a sharp fire when the boats arrived within pistol-shot, but the schooner was boarded and carried, after a very gallant defence by a crew of only 16 men, 5 of whom were wounded. The British sustained a loss of 3 men killed, and 6 wounded.

On the 7th of May the 36-gun frigate *Furieuse*, captain Mounsey, having chased a schooner into the harbour of Orbitello, discovered a xebec coming from the northward. The wind being light, the boats were sent in pursuit, and compelled her to haul in for the forts of Orbitello, where she grounded ; and the crew taking to their boat, joined the party on shore in keeping up a sharp fire of guns and musketry. The xebec was

gallantly boarded and safely brought out, but the British sustained the loss of 1 midshipman and 3 men severely wounded. Lieutenants James Whylock and William Davis of the marines were volunteers on this service.

On the morning of the 16th of May, the boats of the 74-gun ship *Berwick*, captain Edward Brace, and 36-gun frigate *Euryalus*, captain Charles Napier, under the orders of lieutenant H. J. Sweedland, containing the marines of the two ships under the command of captain William T. J. Matthews, were detached to attempt the capture of a convoy of merchant vessels assembled in Calvarie road. The marines landed, and having gained possession of the batteries, opened a fire upon the force, which retreated from them. In the mean time twenty-two vessels were captured, and the object of the enterprise was fully accomplished with no greater loss than one marine killed and one seaman missing.

In the early part of August captain Ussher, cruising on the french coast in company with the *Espoir* brig, discovered a number of vessels lying in the mole of Cassis, a port situated midway between Toulon and Marseilles, where they were protected by five heavy batteries, one of which had a wall 25 feet high. Leaving the brig to blockade the vessels, captain Ussher proceeded off Sicie; and having communicated to sir Edward Pellew the probability of making a successful attack upon this strong-hold of the enemy, the *Redwing* brig, and several boats with officers belonging to the *Caledonia*, *Hibernia*, *Barfleur*, and *Prince of Wales* were placed at his disposal, with 200 marines from the squadron under the direction of captain Jeremiah Coghlan of the navy. Owing to an unfavourable wind, the attack was unavoidably deferred for several days, thereby enabling the enemy to strengthen their means of defence. The light winds that prevailed on the 18th prevented the *Undaunted* taking the position intended; but the *Redwing* and *Espoir*, in spite of a heavy fire from four batteries that protected the entrance of the bay, swept in and took up a most judicious position for covering



the marines, under the following officers,—captains Thomas Sherman and Thomas Hussey; lieutenants Harry Hunt, Samuel Burdon Ellis, Robert T. Dyer, William Blucke, John Maule, Thomas Reeves, Alexander Jarvis, and Edward Mallard. This detachment, led by captain Coghlan, carried the citadel battery by escalade: lieutenant Hunt was the first officer who entered it under a galling fire, and the scaling-ladder broke before any other person could reach the parapet; consequently that gallant officer was left alone to defend himself, until some of his followers, by the means of another ladder, ascended to his assistance. This battery in possession, the marines drove the French at the point of the bayonet, and pursued them through the defences to the heights that command the town. The boats, under captain sir John Sinclair of the Redwing, then entered the mole, across the entrance of which two heavy gun-boats were moored. These, with another gun-boat and twenty-four merchant settees and tartans, were captured. This very dashing enterprise was not accomplished without a serious loss: 4 marines were killed; lieutenant Aaron Tozer of the navy, and 14 marines wounded.

The 38-gun frigate Shannon, captain P. B. V. Broke, having detached the Tenedos on the 25th of May, remained cruising off the port of Boston, watching the Chesapeake of the same force. On the 1st of June, early in the morning, captain Broke addressed to the commanding officer of the Chesapeake a letter of challenge, commencing thus:—"As the Chesapeake appears now ready for sea, I request you will do me the favour to meet the Shannon with her, ship to ship, to try the fortune of our respective flags." He then describes the Shannon's force, fixes a place of meeting, providing against all interruption, and concludes thus:—"I entreat you, sir, not to imagine that I am urged by mere personal vanity to the wish of meeting the Chesapeake; or that I depend only upon your personal ambition for acceding to this invitation. We have both nobler motives. You will feel it as a compliment, if I say that the result of our meeting may

be the most grateful service I can render to my country ; and I doubt not that you, equally confident of success, will feel convinced that it is only by repeated triumphs in *even combats*, that your little navy can now hope to console your country for the loss of that trade it can no longer protect. Favour me with a speedy reply : we are short of provisions and water, and cannot stay long here." Shortly afterwards the Shannon stood in close to Boston light-house, and hove to with her colours flying in sight of the Chesapeake, who was lying at anchor in President roads with royal-yards across, ready for sea ; and in a short time the american frigate was observed to sheet home her top-sails. At thirty minutes past noon captain Broke went himself to the mast-head, and there observed the Chesapeake set top-gallant sails ; shortly afterwards she was seen under way, running down with a fair wind, having in her company several pleasure-boats and a large schooner, on board of which were commodores Bainbridge and Hall, with several other american naval officers. The Shannon then filled and stood out from the land, under easy sail. At 4 P. M. she hauled up her foresail and kept her main-top-sail shivering, to allow the Chesapeake to overtake her : at 4 h. 50 m. the american frigate took in her studding-sails, top-gallant sails, and royals, and got her royal-yards on deck. At 5 h. 10 m. P. M., Boston light-house bearing west, distant about six leagues, the Shannon hauled up with her head to the southward and eastward, and lay to under her topsails, top-gallant sails, jib, and spanker.

At 5 h. 25 m. the Chesapeake, hauling up her fore-sail, steered straight for the Shannon's starboard quarter, and at 5 h. 40 m., having gallantly luffed up within about 50 yards, she squared her main-yard and gave three cheers. At 5 h. 50 m. the Shannon fired her aftermost gun ; and as the next was discharged, the Chesapeake's bow-gun went off, and then the remainder on board both ships as rapidly as they came to bear. At 5 h. 53 m. P. M. the Chesapeake, to avoid ranging a-head, hauled up a little ; and at 5 h. 56 m., having her jib-sheet and fore top-sail

tie shot away, and the helm at that moment not being properly attended to, the ship came so sharp to the wind as completely to deaden her way; and consequently she lay with her stern exposed to her opponent's broadside, without the possibility of making any return to the well-directed and destructive raking fire of the british frigate. The Chesapeake getting stern way, fell on board the Shannon at 6 P.M., with her quarter pressing against the latter's side just before the main-chains; and having shot a-head a little, was stopped by the Shannon's anchor, stowed over the chess-tree, hooking her quarter port.

Captain Broke instantly ordered the ships to be lashed, and observing that the Americans had deserted the quarter-deck guns, he called the boarders, and accompanied by about 20 men the captain, at 6 h. 2 m. P.M., stepped from the Shannon's gangway-rail, just abaft the fore-rigging, on the muzzle of the Chesapeake's aftermost carronade, and thence over the bulwark on the quarter-deck. Here not a man was to be seen, but on the gangway some resistance was made by about 30 Americans, who were instantly driven off the deck. Lieutenants Watt and Falkiner with a reinforcement of boarders, and serjeant Richard Molyneux with the first division of marines, quickly followed captain Broke; lieutenant John Law with the remainder of the marines having now arrived, rushed forward, and while one party kept down the Americans from ascending the main hatchway, another party directed their attention to the musketry from the tops. After the enemy had submitted on the fore-castle, captain Broke was in the act of giving some directions for driving the Americans from the main-top, when he was assailed by three men, one of whom with a blow from the butt-end of a musket, bared his skull, and another cut at him with his cutlass and brought him down. Captain Broke was soon rescued by his gallant followers; and just at that moment lieutenant Watt, having procured an english ensign from the Shannon, after hauling down the American colours, bent both on to the peak halyards; but in the haste and confusion of the mo-

ment the american stripes were hoisted above the english flag. Nearly at this time, owing to the quarter-gallery of the Chesapeake giving way, the two ships separated a little, and the people on board the Shannon supposing that the British had been overpowered, again opened their fire upon the american frigate. The flags were instantly lowered, but not until lieutenant Watt and four or five men were killed. The damages of the Shannon were trifling, but her loss was very severe. Out of 306 men and 24 boys, she had her first-lieutenant, purser, clerk, 17 seamen, and 4 marines killed; captain Broke (severely), the boatswain (mortally), a master's-mate, and 56 wounded. Total: 24 killed, and 59 wounded; and this heavy loss was sustained in the short space of 15 minutes. The Chesapeake, out of a crew of 386 men and boys, had 47 men killed, and 99 wounded. Captain Lawrence was mortally wounded by a musket-shot fired by lieutenant Law previous to the boarding, and died on the 4th of June. Between the discharge of the first gun and the period of captain Broke's boarding, eleven minutes only elapsed; and in four minutes more the Chesapeake had surrendered.

On the 8th of June the 74-gun ships Eagle and Elizabeth, having discovered three vessels, supposed to be laden with powder, within the town of Omago on the coast of Istria, attacked the batteries for some time, and then landed the marines under captain John Hore Graham, with lieutenants Thomas Price and Samuel Lloyd, who soon drove the enemy, consisting of more than 100 french soldiers, out of the town; while the boats destroyed a two-gun battery, and brought out four vessels.

On the 20th, at day-break, the marines of the Elizabeth under captain John Hore Graham and lieutenant Thomas Price, accompanied by 50 seamen under lieutenants Roberts and Bennett, landed at Digrano, opposite to the Prioni islands, and assisted by a division of armed boats commanded by lieutenant Bernard, took possession of the town, making prisoners a body of french troops stationed there.

On the 3rd of July, in the morning, rear-admiral Freemantle, with the 74-gun ships *Milford*, *Elizabeth*, and *Eagle*, captains J. D. Markland, E. L. Gower, and Charles Rowley, *Bacchante* frigate, captain William Hoste, and the *Haughty* gun-brig, got under way, with a light breeze at south-west, from an anchorage about four miles from Fiume, and after detaching the boats and the marines with the *Haughty* to storm the battery at the mole-head as soon as the guns were silenced, the three ships proceeded to attack the sea-line batteries of the town, mounting 15 heavy guns. A shift of wind to the south-east, aided by a strong current from the river, broke the ships off, so that the *Eagle* could only fetch the second battery ; opposite to which she anchored, and after a well-directed fire of a few minutes the fort was silenced. The signal was then made to storm, and captain Rowley in his gig, leading the first detachment of marines, took possession of the fort and hoisted the english colours ; while captain Hoste, with the marines of the *Milford*, landed and spiked the guns of the first battery, which had been under the fire of the *Milford* and *Bacchante*, and was early evacuated. Leaving a party of seamen to turn the guns of the second battery against those still in the enemy's possession, captain Rowley with the marines, who were headed by lieutenants Samuel Lloyd and Edmund Nepean, boldly dashed on through the town, although annoyed by the enemy's musketry from the houses, and from a field-piece placed in the centre of the principal street. The marines, aided by the seamen from the boats, moved forward with such firmness, that the enemy retreated with their field-piece to a square, where they made a stand, taking post in a large building, until driven from it by the fire of the boats with their carronades : the French then gave way at all points, and forsook the town in every direction. The division under captain Hoste having joined the force under captain Rowley, the two batteries and the field-pieces, together with the stores and shipping, were taken possession of. Of ninety vessels captured, the greater part were restored to the

proprietors; thirteen, laden with oil, grain, powder, and merchandise, were sent to Lissa, and the remainder destroyed. In this gallant enterprise, in which the British were opposed to upwards of 350 troops, besides the armed inhabitants of the town, the loss was comparatively very trifling. One marine was killed; lieutenant Samuel Lloyd of the marines, and 5 seamen and marines wounded.

On the 5th the squadron moved from Fiume to Porto-Ré, where captains Hoste and Markland landed with the marines, and found the forts abandoned by the enemy. The boats then went up to Bocca-Ré, and after rendering the guns useless, the marines returned to their respective ships.

On the 7th, at 11 A. M., the *Eagle* attacked the fortress of Farissina, mounting five eighteen-pounders. The works were stormed, under cover of the ship's fire, by a party of seamen under lieutenants Greenaway and Hotham, and the marines commanded by lieutenant Samuel Lloyd. The guns were disabled, and the works laid in ruins; and at 2 P. M. the party re-embarked with no greater loss than one midshipman wounded.

On the 2nd of August, in the evening, while the *Eagle* and *Bacchante* were sailing along the coast of Istria, a convoy of twenty-one sail was seen at anchor in the harbour of Rovigno. The ships then stood in, and after a sharp fire and some resistance on the part of the enemy, the batteries were abandoned; whereupon captain Hoste landed with a detachment of seamen and marines, and having drawn the enemy out of the town and disabled the guns, the vessels were captured and part of them brought off. The only loss sustained in this affair, on the part of the British, was one marine wounded.

On the 9th of June the british fleet, commanded by sir Edward Pellew, anchored in the bay of Rosas; and in order to attract the attention of the french general, and to prevent any troops being detached from Figueras to join Suchet's division employed against the british force under sir John Murray, who was then investing Tarragona, the admiral directed the ships to

take positions within range of the forts. In the evening preparations were made for landing a detachment of marines; and about midnight the boats, conveying 200 men under captain Cummings, with lieutenants Jessop, Edward Baker, and J. T. Brown, pushed off from the Royal George and Ocean, and at day-break the party effected a landing, although exposed to a galling fire from a body of french infantry, drawn up under the protection of some houses about 40 yards from the beach. The British immediately rushed forward, and after a sharp contest drove the enemy, who retreated through the town of l'Escalle, leaving 10 men on the field either killed or wounded. Shortly afterwards the marines re-embarked.

On the 4th of August, in the evening, the boats of the 74-gun ship Milford, and 18-gun sloop Weasel, under commander Black, accompanied by lieutenant Grant, and lieutenant of marines Kenyon Stevens Parker, left the Milford about seven leagues from the island of Ragoniza. Having passed the sea-battery within pistol-shot unperceived by the enemy, the boats landed at the back of the island; and at daylight on the 5th, a british cheer from the top of the hill was the first intimation the french troops received of their approach. The detachment then rapidly descended, entered the battery at the rear, and carried it without meeting much resistance. Six twenty-four pounders, and two 7½-inch mortars mounted on the battery were disabled, a newly-erected signal-tower demolished, and the party safely returned to their ships without sustaining any loss.

On the 5th of September, in the morning, the 74-gun ship Edinburg, captain the honourable G. H. L. Dundas, 38-gun frigates Impérieuse and Resistance, sloops Swallow, Eclair, and Pylades, assembled off the port D'Anzo, in which place a convoy of twenty-nine vessels was lying under the protection of two batteries on the mole, mounting each two heavy guns, a tower to the northward with one gun, and a battery to the southward with two guns that flanked the mole. The arrangements having been prepared for the attack, the ships bore up at

1 h. 30 m. P. M., and took their stations as follows :—the *Impérieuse* and *Resistance* against the batteries on the mole ; *Eclair* and *Pylades* against the battery to the southward, supported by the *Edinburg* ; and the *Swallow* opposed to the tower. The ships opened their fire by signal, and shortly afterwards the marines, commanded by captain Thomas Mitchell and lieutenant J. J. C. Rivers, and a party of seamen under lieutenant E. Travers, landed in the best order, close under the southern battery, which was instantly carried, the French flying in all directions. Lieutenant Mapleton having taken possession of the mole-head, the whole convoy, including twenty vessels laden with timber for the arsenal at Toulon, were brought out without sustaining any loss ; and after all the works were demolished, the British re-embarked.

On the 5th of October rear-admiral Freemantle, with the 74-gun ships *Milford* and *Eagle*, captains Mitford and Rowley, and some smaller vessels, arrived off the port of Trieste, while a detachment of austrian troops invested the town on the land-side. On the 10th the French opened a masked battery upon the *Milford*, then lying with her stern towards the shore ; but the ship's broadside was soon brought to bear, and in less than a quarter of an hour both guns were disabled, and 2 men stationed at them killed, and 7 wounded, while not a man was hurt on board the *Milford*. On the same day captain Markland landed with the marines, accompanied by two field-pieces. On the 11th, general Nugent returned from Gorizia, having compelled the viceroy to pass the Isongo. It was then determined to lay siege to the castle, and by the 16th the British had placed 12 guns in two batteries, which now opened their fire, and the cannonade continued the whole of the day. Towards evening the French were driven from the windmill, and the Austrians possessed themselves of the fort, with two howitzers placed there. The fire was continued with increased effect until the 29th, when colonel Rabie, the french commanding officer, capitulated. The loss of the British on this occasion amounted to

10 seamen and marines killed, and 35 wounded. The officers of marines employed in the several operations we have just related, were as follows :—Milford, major Joseph Vallack, first-lieutenants Kenyon S. Parker and Edmund Nepean. Elizabeth, captains J. H. Graham, Thomas Price, and Rowland Edwards. Eagle, lieutenants Samuel Lloyd and G. A. Woods. Bacchante, lieutenant William Haig.


On the 14th of October, at 1 p.m., the 36-gun frigate *Furieuse*, running along the coast towards the island of Ponza, discovered a convoy of nineteen vessels, protected by two gun-boats, a fort of 2 long twenty-four pounders, and a strong, fortified tower and castle in the harbour of Marinello, situated about six miles to the eastward of Civita-Vecchia. Lieutenants W. Croker and W. Lester, and lieutenants of marines James Whylock and William Davis, gallantly volunteered to cut out the convoy and storm the fort. This service was promptly executed, and after a few broadsides from the *Furieuse*, the battery was carried by the marines, and the guns spiked. The french troops retreated to the strong position of the castle and the tower commanding the harbour, whence they kept up a constant fire of musketry through loop-holes, without the possibility of being dislodged ; although the *Furieuse* weighed and moved in, to direct her whole fire upon it. Sixteen vessels were captured under a galling fire from the shore, two sunk at the entrance of the port, and the remaining fourteen, deeply laden, safely brought out. In this gallant affair the British sustained a loss of 2 men killed, and 10 wounded.

On November 9, 1813, the boats of the *Undaunted* frigate were detached by captain Ussher, under the orders of lieutenant J. R. Hownam, assisted by several officers, and among that number lieutenant Harry Hunt of the marines, who on this occasion commanded 100 marines lent from the *Caledonia* in addition to his party. The batteries of Port la Nouvelle were stormed and carried in the most gallant style, and two vessels were captured without a casualty. A naval biographer relates the fol-

lowing anecdote of heroism, which occurred on this occasion : "Owing to the eagerness of the gallant fellows employed on this service, so many men got on the first ladder at once that it broke under their weight, and only two were able to obtain a footing on the wall. These (a boatswain's mate of the Undaunted and a marine) were furiously attacked by 40 french soldiers : the sailor was overpowered, and the enemy were dragging him towards the oven then lighted for heating shot, when the brave marine fortunately extricated himself, flew to the assistance of his companion, bayonetted two of the Frenchmen, and succeeded in releasing the seaman. Notwithstanding their apparently desperate situation, the two Britons now became the assailants ; and incredible as it may appear, their forty opponents not only cried for quarter, but were actually placed in confinement before a single man mounted the second ladder."

On the 8th of November, at 8 h. 30 m. P.M., the boats of the 74-gun ship *Revenge*, captain sir John Gore, under the orders of lieutenant William Richards, assisted by several officers, including captain John Spurin of the marines, proceeded to the attack of a french felucca privateer lying in the harbour of Palamos. At 11 P.M. the party boarded and carried the privateer, without sustaining any loss.

On the 26th of November the 74-gun ship *Swiftsure*, captain E. S. Dickson, when off Cape Rousse, island of Corsica, detached her boats in pursuit of the french privateer *Charlemagne*, of eight guns and 93 men, who was using every exertion, by sweeping, to effect her escape. On the approach of the boats the privateer made the necessary preparation for resistance, but did not open her fire until the attacking party had commenced the action. The *Charlemagne* was boarded on the bow and quarter, and after a determined resistance was gallantly carried ; but not without sustaining a very serious loss : one midshipman and 4 seamen were killed ; lieutenants R. H. Fuller and J. Harvey (the latter mortally), lieutenant of marines James Robert Thompson, 1 midshipman, and 11 men wounded.



On the 10th of December the troops of the italian levy amounting to about 1000 men, which had embarked at Melazzo on the 29th of November on board the british squadron under the command of captain Josias Rowley of the 74-gun ship *America*, having been landed at Via Reggio, proceeded immediately to Lucca, and gained possession of that town. On the following day captain Henry Rea of the marines, with 40 rank and file, was sent to attack a signal-station to the northward; and that officer threatening to storm, the fortress surrendered without opposition, although it proved to be a castle of considerable size and strength, walled and ditched, and capable of containing nearly 1000 men; and being a place of much importance, it was destroyed by a party of seamen. Lieutenant-colonel Catanelli with the italian troops having returned to Via Reggio on the 12th, they were attacked by a force of about 600 cavalry and infantry, with a howitzer and two field-pieces from the garrison of Leghorn, and reinforcements that had joined them from Pisa. The French were completely routed by the lieutenant-colonel, with the loss of their guns, and a considerable number of killed, wounded, and prisoners; the remainder retreating in confusion towards Pisa. Information having been obtained of the weak state of the garrison of Leghorn, it was deemed advisable to intercept the return of the french detachment by re-embarking the Italians and proceeding immediately with the squadron to Leghorn. Accordingly, the troops were placed on board country vessels, and in tow of the ships proceeded to that place, where they were landed to the northward of the town without opposition. The detachments of marines, amounting to 270 men, under the command of captain J. Baile, with captains Henry Rea and Thomas Mitchell; lieutenants John Hewes, J. J. Delacombe, George Gunn, J. J. C. Rivers, William Davis, John G. Hill, Lonsdale Brown, Samuel Cox, and Paul R. Carden, were also disembarked; but owing to the unfavourable state of the weather, the whole did not reach the shore until the morning of the 14th. On the evening of the 13th colonel

Catanelli pushed on with the advance of the marines and italian levy, and got possession of the suburbs of the town of Leghorn; but owing to the extreme darkness of the night, and the almost impassable state of the roads, the main body of the troops was prevented joining until the morning; and on their arrival, the Italians occupied the suburbs and buildings close to the ramparts, whilst the marines took up a position on the Pisa road. Shortly afterwards they were attacked by a considerable body of french troops, consisting of at least 700 men, cavalry and infantry, supported by two field-pieces. The charge of the cavalry was received with great firmness by the marines, who opened and allowed them to pass, killing all but about 14, who with two officers succeeded in getting through; but excepting one officer, they were all killed or wounded by a detachment of the italian levy formed at the entrance of the suburbs of the town. After the charge of the cavalry the marines instantly closed, drove the enemy with the bayonet, and entirely routed them; with the loss of the officers commanding their cavalry and infantry, and from 250 to 300 killed, wounded, and prisoners; the remainder retreating in the greatest disorder to Pisa.

Captain G. H. L. Dundas, in his official report of this very gallant exploit, thus expresses himself: "My most particular thanks are due to captain Baile of the Armada, who commanded the marines, as also to captains Rea and Mitchell of the America and Edinburg. To the other officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, all possible credit is due for repelling the attack and putting to rout the enemy, who were certainly double their force."

The loss sustained by the marines in this brilliant affair was only 1 man killed and 7 wounded, including lieutenant William Davis, who received the cut of a sabre in repelling the charge of the french cavalry. This officer, whose name appears in our report of several gallant enterprises, and who was many years adjutant of the Portsmouth division, acquitted himself with great credit in his revision of Torrens's regulation for the field move-

ments of infantry, which, having been laid before the Board of Revision, obtained for him the most flattering testimonials from the general commanding-in-chief, the adjutant-general, and several distinguished officers.

1814.

On the 23rd of January, at 10 h. A.M., the 36-gun frigates *Creole* and *Astrea*, captains George Charles Mackenzie and John Eveleigh, rounding the south-east point of Mayo, Cape de Verds, with the wind fresh from the north-west, discovered the mast-heads of the french 40-gun frigates *Etoile* and *Sultane*, captains P. H. Phillebert and George Du Petit Thouars, who were lying in English harbour. At noon, when the british frigates were about a mile from the land, the *Etoile* and *Sultane* slipped and made sail, followed by the *Astrea* and *Creole*; and the latter, at one P.M., ranged up on the lee beam of the *Sultane*. The *Astrea* having opened her fire in crossing the *Sultane*'s stern, gallantly passed between the latter and the *Creole*, and after exchanging two broadsides, she passed on to the *Etoile*, then about half a mile a-head of her consort, with her mizen top-sail aback. At 2 h. 30 m. the *Creole* shot away the mizen-mast of the *Sultane*, but the action continued between these two ships until about 3 P.M.; at which time the *Creole* was so much disabled in her masts and rigging, that she withdrew from the contest and steered towards the island of St. Jago. At 2 h. 30 m. P.M. the *Astrea* ranged alongside of the *Etoile* to leeward, and after an exchange of broadsides passed a-head and raked her opponent; but at this moment losing her wheel, she fell round off, and the *Etoile* wearing, passed close astern of her, pouring in a destructive raking fire. Backing round, the *Astrea* brought her broadside to bear, and the two frigates were again closely engaged. About this time captain Eveleigh was mortally wounded, and the command devolved upon lieutenant John Bulford, who gallantly continued the action until 3 h. 30 m., when the *Sultane* passed her opponent

to leeward, and shortly afterwards wearing round, stood before the wind, leaving the *Astrea* and the *Etoile* in close action. At 3 h. 45 m. P.M. the latter came round on the starboard tack, and in five minutes afterwards the *Astrea's* mizen-mast went by the board. The *Etoile* now ceased firing and stood towards her consort, whose main top-mast had fallen over the side. At 4 h. 45 m. the *Creole* anchored in Porto-Praya bay, where she was joined by the *Astrea* an hour afterwards. The former, out of 284 men and boys, amounted to 1 master's-mate, 7 seamen, and 2 marines killed, and 26 men wounded. The *Astrea*, besides the loss of her mizen-mast, had her other masts badly wounded, and was severely cut up in her spars and rigging. Out of the same complement as that of the *Creole*, her commander and 8 men were killed, and 37 wounded; making the united british loss 19 killed and 63 wounded; whilst that of the two french frigates amounted to 40 killed and 60 wounded.

When these two french frigates were about twelve leagues to the north-west of the Isle de Bas, on the 26th of March, at 9 A.M., they fell in with the 36-gun frigate *Hebrus*, captain Edmund Palmer, and the *Sparrow* brig; and the latter in crossing received several shot from each of them, which killed her master and wounded 1 seaman. At 10 A.M. the 74-gun ship *Hannibal* was seen coming down from to windward under a press of sail, and at 11 P.M. the enemy's ships having separated, the 74 went in chase of the disabled *Sultane*, whilst the *Etoile* was pursued by the *Hebrus* and the brig.

The *Hebrus* continued to gain on the french frigate, and at 5 P.M. she lost sight of both the *Hannibal* and the brig. About midnight the *Etoile* reached the race of Alderney, when the wind getting more northerly, the *Hebrus* came up fast and took in her studding-sails; and at 1 h. 45 m. A.M. on the 27th, while she was following close upon the larboard quarter of the *Etoile*, as the latter wore round Pointe Jobourg, the french frigate opened her fire, and the *Hebrus*, running athwart her opponent's stern within pistol-shot, to get between her and the shore,

poured in a well-directed broadside. The Etoile, at 2 h. 20 m., while crossing the bows of the Hebrus to get again inside her, shot away the british ship's fore top-mast and fore-yard, besides crippling her main-mast and bowsprit. A light breeze that sprung up from off the land, enabled the Hebrus at 3 A. M. to throw some raking broadsides into her antagonist, and at 3 h. 45 m. shot away her mizen-mast by the board. At 4 A. M. the Etoile ceased firing, and after a close action of two hours and a quarter, hailed to say she had surrendered. Immediately after taking possession of the prize, it became necessary to turn the heads of both ships off shore, as well to prevent them from grounding as to get beyond the reach of a battery which had kept up a galling fire; the tide fortunately set the ships round Point Jobourg, and at 7 A. M. they anchored in Vauville bay, about five miles from the shore. The Hebrus, out of 284 men and boys, had 13 killed and 25 wounded; while the Etoile, out of 374, had 40 killed and 73 wounded. Officers of marines of the Hebrus were lieutenants Charles Griffith and John M'Lachlan. The Hannibal was not long in overtaking the disabled frigate, of which she went in chase; and the Sultane, at 4 h. 15 m. P. M., discharged her broadside, and surrendered.

The french 40-gun frigate Clorinde, captain Lagarde, was on her return to Brest from a successful cruise, when, at 2 P. M. on the 25th February, she fell in with the 38-gun frigate Eurotas, captain John Phillimore, who quickly bore up in chase. At 4 P. M., the wind having shifted from south-west to north-west, the Clorinde, suddenly shortening sail, endeavoured to cross the hawse of her pursuer: this manœuvre hastened their junction, and at 5 P. M. the Eurotas, in passing under the stern of the Clorinde, discharged her starboard broadside, then luffing up under her quarter, both ships became warmly engaged. At 5 h. 20 m. the mizen-mast of the Eurotas was shot away, and nearly at the same time the fore top-mast of the Clorinde fell over the side. The french frigate now endeavoured to cross the bows of the

Eurotas, but the latter escaped this by luffing up; and passing under the stern of her opponent, poured in her larboard broadside: the two frigates then renewed the action with great spirit. At 6 p. m. the main-mast of the Eurotas fell over the starboard and unengaged quarter, and almost at the same time the mizen-mast of the Clorinde was shot away. At 6 h. 50 m., the two ships being nearly in the same relative position, the fore-mast of the british ship fell over the starboard bow, and in a few minutes the main-mast of the Clorinde shared the same fate. The Eurotas now lay totally unmanageable, and the Clorinde at 7 h. 10 m., availing herself of the helpless condition of her opponent, set the remains of her fore-sail, and with her fore stay-sail stood to the south-east out of gun-shot. Captain Phillimore, who had his arm dangerously wounded by a grape-shot, now consented to be taken below, and the command devolved upon lieutenant Robert Smith.

By great exertions throughout the night, the Eurotas, at 5 a. m. on the 26th, had rigged top-masts for lower-masts, and at noon the british frigate was in pursuit of her antagonist under jury-courses, top-sails, stay-sails, and spanker; going six knots with a northerly breeze, and gaining rapidly on the Clorinde, who had only partially cleared away the wreck of her main and mizen-masts. At this moment the 36-gun frigate Dryad hove in sight, and shortly after took possession of the Clorinde. Out of a complement of 329 men and boys, the Eurotas had 3 midshipmen, 13 seamen, and 4 marines killed; her commander (very severely), lieutenant of marines Henry Foord, 1 midshipman, 30 seamen, and 6 marines wounded. Total: 21 killed, 39 wounded. The Clorinde, out of 344 men and boys, had 30 killed and 60 wounded. Lieutenant Connell was the other subaltern of marines.

On the 2nd of February, at 8 a. m., the 56-gun ship Majestic, captain John Hayes, in latitude 36° 41' north, longitude 22° 11' west, chased the american privateer Wasp, and continued the pursuit until the morning of the 3rd, when she fell in with the

french 40-gun frigates *Atalante* and *Terpsichore*, with a spanish ship of 20 guns captured on the preceding day, and a merchant brig in company. At 11 h. 30 m. the french frigates, formed in line a-head, with the spanish ship and brig on their weather-quarter, seemed inclined to await an attack; but the bold approach of the *Majestic* soon altered their resolution, and the frigates bore up under all sail, while their prizes hauled to the eastward. The *Majestic* continued the pursuit until 5 P.M., when the *Terpsichore*, after a slight resistance with her chase guns, let all fly, and brought to; and as captain Hayes deemed it necessary to remain by the captured ship, the *Atalante* made her escape.

In the early part of February the united-states 32-gun frigate *Essex*, captain Porter, with the 20-gun armed ship *Essex junior* (a captured british whaler), were blockaded in Valparaiso by the british 36-gun frigate *Phœbe*, captain James Hillyar, and 24-gun ship *Cherub*, captain J. T. Tucker. On the 28th of March a heavy squall drove the *Essex* from her anchors, and she was compelled to engage the british ships. After some manœuvring the *Essex* attempted to run aground, but just as she reached the breakers the wind suddenly shifted from off the land, and she was compelled to haul down her colours. About 40 of her crew escaped to the shore, and many perished in the attempt. The *Phœbe* had her first-lieutenant, William Ingram, and 3 seamen killed, and 7 wounded. The *Cherub* 1 marine killed; captain Tucker and 2 men wounded. The *Phœbe* mounted 46 guns, with a crew of 300 men, and the *Cherub* 26 guns. The *Essex* also mounted 46 guns, with a crew of 265 men and boys.

On the 30th of August the *Menelaus* frigate, captain sir Peter Parker, was anchored off Moor's Fields, in the Chesapeake, when information was received that 200 american militia were encamped behind a wood, distant about a mile from the beach. Dispositions were immediately made for attacking the enemy,

and at 11 P.M. captain Parker landed with 104 marines and 20 seamen, in two divisions.

Colonel Read, the commander of the american force, stated to amount to 170 maryland volunteers, being apprized of the intended attack, retired to a small open space, surrounded by woods, distant four or five miles from his first position. The British having captured a small picquet soon after their landing, proceeded forward to attack the main body, drawn up in line in front of their encampment, and after some firing drove the Americans through their camp into the woods. Secure behind the trees, the enemy levelled their pieces with unerring aim ; whilst the British, deceived by the apparent flight of their wary foe, rushed on through the woods until they had sustained a heavy loss, when they were compelled to retreat, bringing with them the body of their lamented commander, and all the wounded but three. The British sustained a loss of 14 killed and 27 wounded, including both lieutenants of marines, George Benyon and George Poe. As a proof how little the Americans exposed themselves, they sustained no greater loss than 3 men slightly wounded.

Early on the morning of the 12th of September, the 20-gun ship *Hermes*, captain the honourable H. W. Percy, having under his orders the 20-gun ship *Carron*, captain the honourable R. C. Spencer, 18-gun brigs *Sophie* and *Childers*, captains Nicholas Lockyer and J. B. Umfreville, anchored off the coast of West Florida, about six miles to the eastward of Mobile, for the purpose of attacking Fort Bowyer, situated on that point and mounting 28 guns, including 11 long thirty-two and eighteen pounders. The ships having weighed, stood towards Mobile point, but owing to the intricacy of the navigation, they did not arrive near the fort until the afternoon of the 15th. The *Hermes* took her station within musket-shot distance, the *Sophie*, *Carron*, and *Childers* anchoring in line astern of her ; but previously to this, a detachment of 60 marines and 120 indians,

with a 5½-inch howitzer, under the command of major Edward Nicolls, had landed on the peninsula; and 60 of the indians, under a lieutenant, were immediately detached to secure the pass of Bonsecours, 27 miles to the eastward of the fort. The great distance at which the Carron and Childers had unavoidably anchored, confined the effective part of the fire of the British to the *Hermes* and *Sophie*, and before the former had discharged many broadsides, she had her cable cut by a shot and was carried away by the current; and after receiving a destructive raking fire, grounded directly in front of the fort. Every effort to get the ship afloat proving of no avail, captain Percy removed to the *Sophie* with all his surviving crew, and then set the *Hermes* on fire. That ship had 25 men killed and 24 wounded, and the *Sophie* 6 killed and 16 wounded; which loss, with one marine killed on shore, made a total of 32 killed and 40 wounded; and among the latter major Nicolls of the marines.

In relating the proceedings of the third battalion of Royal Marines, we have remarked that the operations of the british forces before Baltimore had been abandoned, on account of some ulterior object which the naval commander had in view; that consideration, it appears, was an attempt upon the city of New Orleans, the capital of Louisiana, which is situated on the left bank of the Mississippi, and 105 miles from the entrance of that river, and whose population in 1814 was estimated at 23,250 persons. The line of maritime invasion extends from lake Port Chartrain on the east, to the river Teche on the west, intersected by several bays, inlets, and rivers, which furnish avenues of approach to the metropolis; but the flatness of the coast is every where unfavourable for the debarkation of troops, and being much obstructed by shoals, no landing can be effected but by boats, except up the Mississippi; and that has a bar at the entrance, which shoals to thirteen or fourteen feet water.

As the cotton crops of Louisiana and of the Mississippi had

been for some years in accumulation, the city warehouses contained merchandise to an immense amount; and considering that New Orleans was the emporium of a great portion of the western states of the republic, it is probable that the enormous sum of £3,000,000 sterling was not an over estimate of the wealth which, in the event of even a temporary possession of the city, would have been shared by the captors.

On the 8th of December vice-admiral Cochrane, in the 80-gun ship *Tonnant*, with several other ships, reached the *Chandeleur* islands, and by the 12th the remainder of the men-of-war and troop-ships had arrived. The ships of the line anchored off the *Chandeleur*, and the frigates and smaller vessels between *Cat* island and the main, not far from the entrance to lake *Borgne*; the bayou *Catalan*, or *Bienvenu*, at the head of the lake, being the contemplated point of disembarkation. The distance from the anchorage at *Cat* island to the bayou, is 62 miles; and as the principal means of transport is by open boats, it became necessary to destroy or capture the enemy's gun-vessels on the lake. Accordingly, on the night of the 12th forty-two boats, armed with twenty-four, eighteen, and twelve-pounder carronades, with three gigs, conveying altogether 980 seamen and marines under the orders of captain *Nicholas Lockyer*, proceeded in three divisions in pursuit of the flotilla. On the 14th the British attacked five american gun-boats, lying moored athwart the narrow channel called *Malheureux-island* passage, on lake *Borgne*, with springs on their cables, boarding nettings triced up, and every other preparation for a determined resistance. Having arrived within long gun-shot, after a fatiguing row of thirty-six hours, a great part of the way against a strong current, captain *Lockyer* anchored the boats and the crews were allowed to take their breakfast. At 10 h. 30 m. the men again took to their oars, still pulling against a strong current, and exposed to a heavy and destructive fire from the flotilla. About noon captain *Lockyer*, in the barge of the *Seahorse*, closed with

the gun-boat of the american commodore, mounting one long twenty-four pounder on a traversing carriage, 4 twelve-pounder carronades, and 4 swivels, with a crew of 41 men; and after a desperate struggle, in which the greater part of the officers and men were either killed or wounded, succeeded in boarding her, and, seconded by the other british boats, compelled the gallant crew to surrender. The remainder of the flotilla were also attacked and soon secured. The loss sustained by the British in this enterprise amounted to 3 midshipmen, 13 seamen, and 1 marine killed; captain Lockyer, 4 lieutenants, lieutenant of marines James Uniacke, 3 master's-mates, 7 midshipmen, 50 seamen, and 11 marines, wounded. Total: 17 killed, and 77 wounded.

The obstacle to the passage through the lakes being now removed, the disembarkation of the troops commenced on the 16th, when the 85th regiment landed at Isle aux Poix, a small and swampy spot at the mouth of the Pearl river, about thirty miles from the anchorage, and nearly the same distance from the bayou Catalan, the intended point of debarkation. Various causes delayed the arrival of the boats at the fishermen's village near the entrance of the bayou, until midnight on the 22nd, when about 2400 men were embarked in the gun-vessels. At this time the advance, consisting of nearly 1700 men under the command of colonel Thornton of the 85th regiment, commenced ascending the bayou Mazaut, which is the principal branch of the Bienvenu; and at 4 A.M. on the 23rd landed at the extremity of Villeré's canal, running from the Mazaut towards the Mississippi. The head of this creek is distant about three miles from that river, about a mile and a half from the high-road to New Orleans, and six or eight from the city.

About 2 P.M. the army took up a position on the banks of the Mississippi, having the river on their left, a wood on the right, and the main road in front. Whilst the boats were despatched for the second division, the troops, fatigued from the length of time they had been on board, were asleep in their

bivouac; when at 8 P.M. a schooner of 14, and a ship of 16 guns, commenced a heavy fire of round and grape, which was soon followed by a vigorous assault on the advanced and right-flank picquets: the former of the 95th, and the latter of the 85th regiment. The attack was maintained with great firmness, and being renewed with increased force, the remainder of both british regiments was brought up by colonel Thornton; and although the enemy stood their ground well, they were finally driven back by the determined advance of the British. On the 27th the schooner was blown up by the fire of our batteries, and on the following day the army moved to within gun-shot of an entrenchment thrown up by the enemy across the cultivated ground from the Mississippi, to an impassable swampy wood on their left, in extent about 1000 yards. Guns were brought up from the shipping, and on the 1st of January, 1815, the batteries were opened; but as they produced little effect, it was resolved to await the arrival of a reinforcement of the 7th and 43rd regiments, under general Lambert.

On the 8th the army, commanded by major-general sir Edward Pakenham, was formed for a general attack on the enemy's works, which had a canal of about four feet deep in their front. During the preceding night, the 85th regiment under lieutenant-colonel Thornton had crossed over to the right bank, as did a battalion of marines formed from the detachments serving on board the fleet, commanded by brevet-major Thomas Adair, consisting of the following officers, and some others whose names could not be procured:

Captains: John Robyns, Gilbert Elliot, John Wolrige, Hugh Ross, and Robert Wright.

First-lieutenants: T. B. Hornbrook, J. Hayes, Acheson Crozier, Giles Meech, John Wilson (1), Henry Elliott, and James Uniacke.

Second-lieutenants: W. Remfrey, H. B. Skinner, James Whitcomb, J. Drinkwater, J. M'Farlane, J. H. Cator, J. Edleston, G. T. Hinton, and W. H. Sturgeon.

This force, in conjunction with a division of seamen under captain Rowland Money, attacked the enemy at daylight in their entrenched position on that side of the river, and as the column advanced it was supported by the armed boats moving parallel with it. When they arrived within 200 yards of the intrenchment, the British discontinued firing, and moved rapidly forward with the bayonet. At that moment lieutenant Henry Elliot, observing that the enemy's right flank was accessible, ordered his men to oblique to the left; and having passed the ditch and an unfinished breast-work, was quickly in rear of the Americans: lieutenant Crozier with his company, and the skirmishers of the 85th, closely following, turned the enemy's flank and captured a field-piece. This part of the operations having succeeded so admirably, the remainder of the column rushed into the work, drove the enemy from every position, and took possession of 17 pieces of cannon.

Among the wounded on this occasion were captain Gilbert Elliot and lieutenant Henry Elliot, both struck by musket-balls, and they owed their safety to very singular circumstances: the former, from wearing a stout tooth-pick case in his waist-coat pocket, which was smashed to atoms; and the latter was hit on the breast-plate, the ball carrying away the tail of the lion, and passing through the belt.

The principal attack by the troops on the left bank proving unsuccessful, with the loss of major-generals the honourable sir Henry Pakenham and Gibbs, and nearly 2000 in killed, wounded, and prisoners, major-general Lambert determined to withdraw the army; consequently, lieutenant-colonel Thornton was directed to retire, after spiking the guns. Immediate preparations were made for re-embarking the whole force, and on the 27th of January the troops returned on board the squadron.

On the 15th of January, at 5 A. M., the united-states 44-gun frigate *President*, commodore Decatur, steering along the shore of Long Island, fell in with the 50-gun ship *Majestic*, 40-gun frigate *Endymion*, and 38-gun frigates *Pomone* and *Tenedos*.

All sail was made by the british squadron in chase, steering east and by north, with the wind north-west and by north. At 6 h. 30 m. the Majestic fired three shots at the President, but at too great a distance to take effect. By noon the wind decreased, and the Endymion began to leave the Majestic and gain upon the President. At 1 h. 15 m. P. M. the latter commenced lightening herself by starting water, cutting away her anchors, throwing overboard spars, boats, and every article that could be got at. She also kept wetting her sails, from the royals down; nevertheless the Endymion continued to gain upon the chase, and the President at 2 P. M. opened a fire from her stern guns, which the Endymion in a short time returned with her bow chasers. About 5 h. 30 m. P. M. the Endymion, having for more than a quarter of an hour maintained a position within half-point blank shot on her quarter, the President bore away north, to bring her opponent upon her beam, and then effect her escape to leeward; but the Endymion met the manœuvre by putting her helm a-weather, and the two ships became closely engaged in a parallel line of sailing. At 6 P. M. the Americans kept up a smart fire of musketry from the tops, which was returned by the marines of the Endymion under lieutenants Walter Griffith Lloyd and John Baker, the ships not being more than half musket-shot apart. At 6 h. 45 m., the President having hauled up a little, the Endymion raked her astern; again placing herself on her opponent's starboard quarter. From 7 h. 18 m. to 7 h. 25 m. P. M. the President made no return to the fire still maintained by the Endymion, but then recommencing, she shot away the Endymion's main top-mast studding-sail. At 7 h. 35 m. the american frigate again hauled to the wind, which afforded her opponent a second opportunity to pour in a raking fire; and in about ten minutes the President kept more away, firing only at intervals. At about 8 P. M. she ceased firing, and appeared to show a light: under the impression that the President had struck, the Endymion also discontinued the action, and began to bend new sails. While the Endymion was thus occupied, the President continued

her course to the eastward ; but the Pomone came up with her at 11 h. 15 m. P. M., when the american frigate hailed that they had surrendered. The loss sustained by the Endymion, out of 319 men and 27 boys, amounted to 10 seamen and 1 serjeant of marines killed, and 12 seamen and 2 marines wounded. Out of 465 men and 4 boys, the President had 3 lieutenants and 32 men killed, the commodore and 69 wounded.

CHAPTER VI.

Services of the 1st and 2nd Battalions.

FROM THE YEAR 1810, TO 1815.

ON the 29th of November a battalion composed of six companies of 80 rank and file each, with a company of marine artillery, embarked at Plymouth under the command of major Richard Williams, and arrived at Lisbon on the 8th of December. On the 17th the battalion, together with the detachments of marines from the squadron in the Tagus, were landed; and having formed in the Roscio square with a brigade of light six-pounders on their right, the british envoy presented a pair of colours to the battalion, with a highly complimentary address. After passing in review, the whole of the marines re-embarked.

On the 31st the battalion again landed, and immediately marched to Loures, where it continued until the 16th of January; and in consequence of the several detachments serving on shore from the ships being recalled on board, preparatory to sailing, it returned to Lisbon, and took up its quarters at St. George's castle. From the period of their arrival the men were borne on the books of the Agincourt until October 1811, when that ship sailed for England, and they were then formally discharged to Lisbon.

On the 12th of November an Admiralty order allowed the captains to receive the usual annual allowance of £47. 7s. 6d. for payment of their companies. Major Dickenson returned to England on the 31st of December, and major Graham took command of the british troops in Fort St. Julian.

1812.

The battalion being ordered to embark, the following appeared in garrison-orders of the 11th of February :—" Major-general Peacocke cannot part with the Royal Marine battalion without expressing the lively concern he feels in being deprived of their services, and requesting their acceptance of his best thanks for their uniform good conduct whilst in this garrison ; which, prepared as he was by the high reputation always maintained by the corps, has exceeded his most sanguine expectations. The major-general begs to assure major Williams and the battalion, that wherever their new career may lead them, they will carry with them his sincere and ardent wishes for their future welfare and prosperity."

The battalion, which had been increased to eight companies of 70 rank and file, together with the artillery company, having embarked on the 15th of February, left the Tagus on the 17th ; and on its arrival in England was billeted in Portsea, where it continued until the 6th of June. Being then fully equipped for field-service, it embarked on board the Diadem troop-ship, consisting of 2 majors, 9 captains, 14 first and 4 second-lieutenants, 1 paymaster, 1 adjutant, 1 quarter-master, 1 surgeon, 1 assistant-surgeon, 5 staff-serjeants, 39 serjeants, 41 corporals, 17 drummers, and 559 privates. Total, 694.

On the 11th of June the Diadem arrived off Santona, and on the 15th sir Home Popham in the Venerable joined her from Corunna, and took command of the squadron. On the 19th preparations were made for an attack on Lequito, and two guns having been mounted on an island, opened their fire upon the place ; but the spanish force, which had invested the town, settled the affair without any further effort on the part of the squadron, and the french garrison, consisting of 296 men under a chef-de-bataillon surrendered, and were sent on board the Hotspur frigate. Having made several attempts to co-operate with the Spaniards without any decided result, the ships took up a position within range of the fort of Castro, and after a few shot

had been fired from the squadron, the place surrendered. The battalion having landed, the two companies of french infantry marched from the citadel and grounded their arms in front of a detachment of marines, who were formed in line to receive them. On the following day a division of the spanish army under general Longa arrived ; and on the 10th, the battalion having re-embarked, the squadron sailed for Portugalette, where the troops were landed ; but no sooner on shore, than sir Home Popham, on the approach of a strong reinforcement of the enemy, ordered the marines to re-embark and return to Castro, which they occupied under the direction of captain Christian of the Iris. During the night a strong force of the enemy marched up to the Bilboa gate, about half an hour after the first company under captain Johnson had been posted there ; and not expecting the British had returned to Castro, to their astonishment were received by a sharp fire of musketry. The French returned a few shot, by which a private was wounded ; but on the arrival of a reinforcement under lieutenant Graham, the enemy retired from the road, and sought shelter in a vineyard. The walls of the town were now manned by two companies of Spaniards and two of the battalion. Shortly afterwards the enemy withdrew, leaving one man near the gate badly wounded ; and it is probable that some were killed, as the peasantry reported that the French had buried some men about two miles from the town. Considerable exertions were made to put the place in the best state of defence, and on the 30th captain Christian resigned the command of Castro to major Williams.

An unsuccessful attack was made on Santander by the detachment of marines from the *Magnificent 74*, *Surveillante* and *Medusa* frigates, under the command of captain Noble, with lieutenants Cupples and Sturgeon, headed by captains Lake and sir George Collier of the navy, (who were both wounded). The enemy was in considerable force, and so effectually protected by the houses of the town, that the British were compelled to retreat, having sustained a severe loss : captain Noble was dange-

rously wounded and taken prisoner; besides 9 rank and file killed, and 15 wounded. Lieutenant Sturgeon, who had taken post in a convent, remained shut up for twenty-four hours, until relieved by the guerillas, with whom he continued several days, and with some difficulty regained his ship.

On the 2nd of August six companies re-embarked, and leaving major Graham with the 7th and 8th, the squadron sailed for Santander, where the battalion landed on the 4th, and on the 10th it re-embarked, and proceeded with the squadron to attack Gitaya; but this operation was relinquished by sir Home, on learning that the enemy's force was far superior to his own. The squadron then steered for Portugalette, where it arrived on the evening of the 12th; and finding that the enemy had evacuated Bilbao and Portugalette, the sea-defences and a large fort were destroyed. The marines returned to Santander, where the second battalion, under the command of major James Malcolm, had arrived from England. On the 16th both battalions were embarked, and the squadron sailed to the eastward; on arriving off Portugalette, a spanish force under general Longa joined the expedition, which proceeded to Lequito. Having anchored off Sumaga on the 18th, both artillery companies, under the command of captain Parke, were landed and marched to the heights, where they constructed a battery opposite the rock of Guitaria, mounting 2 long twenty-four pounders, together with a 5½-inch howitzer in a position below it; which at one P. M. opened upon the rock, and was replied to by the enemy from various points. In the mean time, the second battalion had landed, and joined the Spaniards on the surrounding heights.

Information having reached the commodore of the approach of 4000 french troops, orders were issued on the 20th of September for an immediate re-embarkation, and to destroy the guns. This was partly carried into execution, when it was discovered that the report was unfounded; and thus terminated the futile attempt upon Guitaria. This was the fourth time the

british force had appeared off the place, and in one affair had to retire with the loss of 2 twenty-four pounders, and 35 men made prisoners. On the 28th both battalions disembarked at Santander, and were quartered in the castle. At this period the town was without any defence, the redoubt on the hill and the various works having been destroyed by the Spaniards. On the 17th of October captain Parke, with lieutenant March, left Santander for Burgos, conveying 2 twenty-four pounders to the british army before that place; but the approach of a division of the French under marshal Soult having compelled the marquis of Wellington to relinquish his operations, captain Parke returned on the 26th. The first battalion having been conveyed across the harbour, marched for Castello, and was posted before Santana; which place contained a garrison of 1500 men, under general Lameth. In consequence of information that a considerable force of the enemy was marching upon Santana, sir Home recalled the battalion on the 1st of November; but it had only reached Galizano on its return to Santander, when the order was countermanded, and it resumed its position at Castello. A reinforcement of marines having arrived at Santander, two companies were added to the second battalion, and another company of artillery formed. The first battalion was recalled on the 14th of December, and on the 15th major Williams received the following :

“ SIR,

I take the earliest moment, after your return to Santander, to express to you my very sincere approbation of the uniform good conduct which was manifested by the first battalion of marines during the time it was investing Santana; and I request you will do me the honour to assure the officers and men under your command, that I have always felt, and never failed to promulgate the same sentiment,—that if ever the enemy ventured to give you a proper opportunity of coming in contact with them, that the result would be as flattering to the country,

and as honourable to your corps in particular, as any issue which has taken place in a similar contest during the course of the war.

I have the honour to be,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) HOME POPHAM."

Thus terminated the expedition to the north coast of Spain. Castro and Lequito fell into our hands by means of offensive operations, but the possession of Bilboa and Santander was the consequence of the victory of Salamanca on the 23rd of July.

On the 21st of December both battalions sailed from Santander, and arrived at Spithead on the 12th of January, 1813. Shortly afterwards they were increased to the following schedule, each consisting of,—

	Artillery.	Batt.		Artillery.	Batt.
Major-commandant	—	1	Assistant-surgeon	—	1
Major	—	1	Staff-serjeants	—	2
Captains	1	8	Serjeants	4	40
Subalterns	4	16	Corporals	4	40
Paymaster	—	1	Bombardiers	6	—
Adjutant	—	1	Drummers	2	16
Quarter-master	—	1	Gunners	60	—
Surgeon	—	1	Privates	—	672

Lieutenant Valentine Griffith succeeded to the appointment of quarter-master, and on the 10th the first battalion, with its company of artillery, proceeded to Plymouth; whilst the second was conveyed to Berry-head barracks. On the 10th of February major Williams was promoted to the brevet-rank of lieutenant-colonel, in order to give him the precedence of major Malcolm in case of their becoming brigaded with the army, the latter having senior army rank. Lieutenant Kempster having returned to his duty as adjutant of the royal marine artillery, lieutenant Mitten succeeded to the adjutancy of the battalion;

and major Graham was relieved by brevet-major Mortimer as regimental major.

Every attention was given by the Admiralty to promote the efficiency of the battalions, as well as of the artillery brigade under the command of captain Parke, of which lieutenant R. C. Steele was appointed acting adjutant; and on the 30th of March this effective force, accompanied by a detachment of 50 marine artillery under lieutenant G. E. Balchild, trained as a rocket-corps and attached to the first battalion, embarked on board the *Diadem*, *Diomede*, *Romulus*, *Nemesis*, *Fox*, and *Success* troop-ships, together with the second battalion, which had previously arrived at Plymouth from Berry-head. With the two companies of artillery a brigade of guns was embarked, consisting of 4 light six-pounders, and 2 light 5½-inch howitzers. To these were added 2 ten-inch land-service mortars, and 2 brass eight-inch howitzers on battery carriages, with ammunition and stores complete.

On the 7th of April the expedition, under the orders of captain Hanchett of the *Diadem*, sailed from Plymouth, and arrived at Murray's anchorage, Bermuda, on the 23rd of May, when both battalions landed and were encamped. On the 28th sir Sidney Beckwith, who had taken a passage in the *Diadem*, was appointed by sir John B. Warren to command the troops, consisting of the marine battalions, detachments of the 102nd regiment, and two independent companies, composed principally of prisoners of war who had entered the british service. On the 29th of May the troops were thus brigaded :—

FIRST BRIGADE.

Lieutenant-colonel Charles Napier, of the 102nd regiment. Second battalion of Royal Marines; detachment of the 102nd regiment; first Independent Company. Brigade-major, captain Piper of the 102nd regiment.

SECOND BRIGADE.

Lieutenant-colonel Richard Williams, of the Royal Marines.

First battalion of Royal Marines; 2nd Independent Company. Brigade-major, lieutenant J. Jones, royal marines.

This united force sailed from Bermuda on the 8th of June, and arrived in the Chesapeake on the 18th, where there were assembled thirteen sail of british ships, consisting of three of 74 guns, a 64 *armée en flute*, four frigates, and the rest sloops and transports: the nearest within seven, and most distant about thirteen miles from Craney island. The numerous boats lying at the sterns of the several ships gave such intimation to the people on shore of some expedition being in preparation, that the commanding officer at Norfolk was induced to send 150 of the Constellation's seamen and marines to a battery of eighteen-pounders on the north-west, and about 480 Virginia militia to reinforce a detachment of artillery stationed with 2 twenty-four and 4 six-pounders on the west side of the island; whilst fifteen gun-boats were moored in the best position for the defence of the place.

After two days of preparation, a division of seventeen or eighteen boats quitted the squadron at daylight on the 22nd, conveying both brigades, under command of major-general Beckwith, round the point of Nansemond river, and landed them without opposition at a place called Pig's-point, near to the narrow inlet separating the main from Craney island. The brigade formed upon the beach in open column of sections, left in front; whilst the boats returned for the naval brigade, which was to make an attack upon the sea-face of the island. That force consisted of 200 seamen, three companies of marines formed from the detachments of the Marlborough, San Domingo, and Plantagenet, under captain Sterling, (the senior officer of the two battalions,) four companies of the 102nd regiment, and one company of Canadian chasseurs, under brigade-major Piper; the whole being under the orders of captain Samuel J. Pechell of the San Domingo.

The enemy's shot falling close to the column, sir S. Beckwith moved forward about half a mile into the wood; but after

a fruitless endeavour to penetrate through it, the brigade reformed in sight of the naval force, then advancing to the attack. Captain Hanchett, leading the boats in the Diadem's launch, was exposed to a heavy fire of round and grape from the batteries, when his boat took the ground at the distance of about 100 yards from the enemy's guns. The captain waved for the boats a-stern to keep afloat; but this warning being disregarded, two of them grounded, and two others were sunk: in the mean time the Americans, aware of the shoal, poured in their grape and canister with destructive effect. Captain Hanchett was severely wounded, while endeavouring to save the men that were struggling in the water; and for two hours the boats, thus huddled together, were exposed to the enemy's fire within canister range, but having at length withdrawn, the troops re-embarked. A few shot produced some casualties in the brigades: 1 serjeant was killed, and 1 private wounded of the 102nd regiment; captain Steele and 7 privates of the second battalion of marines were wounded. Of the naval brigade, 32 were officially reported as missing; and of that number, about 30 of the independent companies gained the shore and deserted.

In order to form a corps to act as light infantry, the 102nd regiment, with the two companies of chasseurs and a proportionate force of artillery, were placed under the command of lieutenant-colonel Napier, and the two battalions of marines under the direction of lieutenant-colonel Williams.

It was now resolved to make an attack upon Hampton, which is situated upon a low flat ground, pretty generally covered with wood. To the right of the town there was a battery of four or five guns, protecting the entrance to the creeks; and a small encampment was formed in the rear of the battery, having a communication with the town by means of a wooden bridge.

On the 25th of June, just before day-break, the advance under lieutenant-colonel Napier landed two miles to the westward of Hampton, and taking the road which led into the town, halted in the wood; but owing to some misunderstanding in the de-

barkation of the troops, the marine battalions did not join the advance until five o'clock, and then the column moved forward in sections, left in front. Some slight skirmishing took place between the independent companies and flank companies of the 102nd, and the enemy; at the same time the gun-boats, with rockets, under the direction of captain Pechell of the San Domingo, with an eight-inch howitzer, moved along the shore, taking a position to flank the battery, and they opened a fire as the column advanced. Lieutenant Wilson, royal marine artillery, directed the howitzer; and captain Parke, with lieutenants R. C. Steele and Vinicombe, the six-pounder, which in the line of march was just in front of the first battalion. After advancing about a mile through the wood, a body of the enemy's troops, supported by 2 six-pounders with horses, was observed on the right flank of the first battalion, endeavouring to form in line in a ploughed field. After a few discharges from the guns, the british column debouched from the wood; and no sooner had the advance formed into line, than the enemy fled through a gate-way at the corner of the field, pursued by the first battalion in column of sections; but without success, as the Americans had thrown themselves into the wood. The column continued its march until it arrived in rear of the town, when it wheeled into line under cover of a hedge, across which the enemy's artillery continued a galling fire, and was ably replied to by the guns under captain Parke. Lieutenant-colonel Williams now advanced with the 7th and 8th companies, commanded by captains Smith and Wills, accompanied by captain Powell, assistant quarter-master-general, on either side of the hedge, and were shortly afterwards followed by the 5th and 6th companies, under the command of captains Lowder and Anderson. On entering the town, which was found to have been evacuated, the 7th company, taking through a street to the right, and arriving at the bridge which supported the communication between the camp and the town, came upon a few soldiers and artillery-men with a six-pounder; these, together with the field-piece, were

instantly captured. The 5th and 6th companies having turned to the right before entering the place, charged another party with 2 six-pounders, which were also taken. In the battery were found 4 twelve-pounders, on garrison carriages: these remained in possession of the 7th company, and the other companies of the battalion formed in the town. At about 10 o'clock A.M. the first battalion was directed to cross the bridge and occupy the camp, while the second took post in the church-yard of Hampton. The first brigade, under lieutenant-colonel Napier, with the artillery, were posted without the town, and the necessary picquets established in that quarter. In their hasty retreat the enemy abandoned the colours of the 85th regiment of the old american war, and of the 68th (Jameson's city light infantry), both of which were taken possession of by the first battalion. The town of Hampton was pillaged by the boats' crews from various ships, as well as by the independent companies, and the conduct of the latter was such that it was deemed necessary to get rid of them; accordingly on the 6th of July they were embarked on board the *Success*, and sent to Halifax. The loss sustained by the British in this affair amounted to 5 men killed, 33 wounded, and 10 missing. On the 26th of June the brigade re-embarked, having previously destroyed the enemy's guns, platforms, and other means of defence.

The colours taken from the enemy were, by desire of sir Sidney Beckwith, presented to admiral sir John B. Warren, who was pleased to say that they belonged in right to the first battalion of marines; and that whenever they thought proper to demand them, they should be given into their custody. Until the 2nd of July the squadron was employed watering, and foraging parties were sent to procure cattle. On the 3rd a detachment of the 102nd regiment, under lieutenant-colonel Napier, with the 6th, 7th, and 8th companies of the first battalion of marines under major Mortimer, three companies of the second battalion under major Barry, a detachment of marine artillery

under captain Parke, with captain Montgomerie of the 1st artillery company, and a rocket detachment under lieutenant Stevens, embarked on board the squadron, consisting of the Sceptre 74, rear-admiral Cockburn, with Nemesis, Fox, and Romulus troop-ships, and some smaller vessels, and on the 4th they dropped down to Lynhaven bay. On the 11th sir John Warren, with the San Domingo, Marlborough, Barossa, of 74 guns, and some smaller vessels, accompanied by the Diadem and Diomede, and a marine-rocket vessel, quitted James's river to proceed up the Chesapeake.

It having been determined to attack the american frigate John Adams, lying about fifty miles up the Potomac, the Barossa and Laurestinus frigates, with the Contest and Mohawk brigs, were selected for that service, conveying the 1st, 2nd, and 5th companies of the first battalion, with the 2nd artillery company, and half a brigade of guns. On the 14th the whole squadron proceeded up the Potomac, and in the evening the admiral anchored about a league from St. George's island, whilst the advanced division continued its course up the river. Two schooners having been observed to anchor in a creek, the boats from the brigs were ordered to attack them. One schooner escaped, but the other, mounting 1 long eighteen-pounder, and 2 eighteen-pounder carronades, with 25 men, was captured, with the loss of 5 killed and 6 wounded on the part of the British; and on the part of the Americans, the commander of the schooner and several of his crew were killed, and several wounded. In the evening the division anchored off Wincomico river, on the left bank of the Potomac. It was now ascertained that the Adams had moved towards Alexandria; consequently the advanced division was recalled by the admiral, and in descending the river the boats attacked a schooner and sloop, protected by the militia, who opened a fire from the bushes which killed lieutenant Hext of the Barossa, and wounded 5 men. Brigade-major Jones was employed on this service. On the 20th two companies of the

first battalion, with a light six-pounder, were landed on Hollis's Marsh, on the western side of Nominy bay, to support an attack on a small sloop lying in a creek : the vessel was burnt, and the companies re-embarked without a casualty.

The squadron under sir George Cockburn, with the brigade under lieutenant-colonel Napier, which as we observed were detached by sir John B. Warren on the 11th, arrived off the bar of Ocracoke on the night of the 12th; and at 2 A.M. on the 13th the troops were embarked in the boats; and accompanied by the Conflict, they pulled to the shore in three divisions. Owing to the great distance and heavy swell, the advance division, commanded by lieutenant Westphal of the Sceptre, did not reach the shoal point of the harbour until considerably after daylight; consequently the enemy was fully prepared for resistance. The instant the boats doubled the point, they were fired at by the Atlas schooner of 10 guns, and the Anaconda brig, mounting 18 long nine-pounders; both vessels were immediately attacked by lieutenant Westphal, under cover of some rockets, and just as he reached the brig's bows, her crew cut the cable and abandoned her. At the same time the schooner hauled down her colours, and was also taken possession of. In the course of the morning the troops were landed, and occupied Ocracoke and the town of Portsmouth, without the slightest opposition. After being two days on shore the troops re-embarked, and the squadron rejoined the commander-in-chief not having incurred any loss.

On the 26th some frigates were sent forward to occupy the narrows, and prevent the escape of any troops to the main land; and on the 28th the admiral with the remaining ships moved up the Chesapeake, but owing to the light winds the squadron did not reach the south-end of Kent island before the night of the 6th of August, when the marines of the Marlborough and frigates, with a detachment of artillery and a light six-pounder, were landed at a post established at the ferry. On the 7th the brigades were also landed: the two battalions on the south

side of Kent island, and the 102nd at the ferry. Kent island is about fourteen miles in length and six in breadth, extending north-north-east and south-south-west along the eastern shore of the Chesapeake, forming a part of Queen Anne's county in the state of Maryland, and is situated about six miles from Annapolis, on the western shore. It is flat and low, with a good road from south to north; that is, from Kent Point to Looe Point. On the 8th, at break of day, the troops continued their march to the northward, but the thermometer being so high as 90 in the shade, they were necessarily compelled to move very slowly. On the 12th the posts of the island having been relieved by detachments from the ships, the first battalion at 5 P.M. proceeded to Looe Point, where boats were prepared for embarkation. At 11 P.M. sir Sidney Beckwith, with the 102nd, 2 six-pounders under captain Parke, and the second battalion, crossed the ferry at the narrows, followed by the first battalion. Before daylight the advance was engaged with the enemy's picquets; but owing to a mistake of the guide, the first battalion landed on the opposite side of the creek, and consequently the troops had entered the town before this battalion had again disembarked. The enterprise proved unsuccessful, and the failure may principally be attributed to the nature of the country, which is extremely woody. The second battalion sustained a loss of 2 privates killed, and 4 wounded.

On the 13th the troops arrived in camp; the brigade was inspected by sir Sidney Beckwith and the admiral on the 19th, and on the 22nd Kent island was evacuated by the British. On the 24th the squadron removed to the south-end of Kent island, and receiving information that the enemy had a camp in Talbot county, about two miles from the island, at 9 P.M. on the 25th the 102nd, with the first battalion and one six-pounder, embarked in the boats, while the second battalion remained on board the schooners, in reserve. On the 26th the first brigade landed without opposition, and after a march of a few miles, having ascertained that there were no troops of the enemy in

that direction, the British re-embarked at 5 P.M.. On the 28th of August, the squadron moved down to Lynhaven bay, where they anchored on the 2nd of September. Soon afterwards a fever broke out, which increased so rapidly, that the admiral, considering that the troops were no longer required in the Chesapeake, determined on proceeding to Halifax. Accordingly the San Domingo, bearing the flag of sir John B. Warren, accompanied by the troop-ships conveying the brigades, sailed for that destination; and on the 13th of September the squadron arrived at Halifax, when the troops were landed and encamped near the town; and on the 23rd the brigade was inspected by sir John Sherbrooke, the lieutenant-governor of Nova Scotia.

In consequence of an application from sir George Prevost, the commander of the forces in the Canadas, to sir John Warren for a reinforcement of 400 marines, the second battalion, under lieutenant-colonel Malcolm, with a portion of artillery under lieutenant Anderson, embarked on the 24th of September on board the Success, Fox, and Nemesis troop-ships for Quebec. Captain Parke was removed to the artillery company of the first battalion, vice Montgomerie, who had resigned his commission. Sir Sidney Beckwith being required to fill his situation as quarter-master-general in Canada, that officer proceeded to Quebec on board the Nemesis; consequently the command of the troops at Halifax devolved upon lieutenant-colonel C. Napier, of the 102nd regiment.

Shortly afterwards an officer arrived with despatches from sir George Prevost, (having travelled the distance of 700 miles in seven days,) bringing intelligence of the defeat of commodore Barclay, who had sailed on the 9th of September from Amherst, on Lake Erie, to relieve general Proctor at Sandentry. On the 8th of October the first battalion, with the artillery, embarked on board the Diadem and Diomedé, and accompanied by the rocket detachment and the marines, sailed on the 9th from Halifax.

On the 18th the squadron entered the river St. Lawrence, and on the 20th anchored, in company with the ships conveying the second battalion, near Green island, about 100 miles from Quebec; and on the 24th the right wing of the first battalion was removed on board six schooners, and conveyed to Quebec. During their passage one schooner was wrecked, but the men fortunately escaped with the loss of their baggage: the left wing landed on the 16th, and marched into barracks.

The second battalion reached Quebec on the 24th, and on the 26th one division marched for Montreal; but the roads were so bad, that on the 27th 100 men, with both artillery companies, embarked in the steam-boat, accompanied by sir Sidney Beckwith, and the third division marched from Quebec on the same day. The left wing having arrived on the 30th, the first battalion was ordered to proceed to Montreal in three divisions; but they had scarcely crossed the memorable plains of Abraham, about two miles from the city, when the troops were recalled, to be embarked in schooners. The wind becoming again foul, the first division marched to St. Augustin, about fifteen miles from Quebec, where they remained for the night, and on the following day the second and third divisions took the same route. On the 3rd of November the first division, under lieutenant-colonel Williams, reached the town of Trois-rivières, ninety miles from Quebec. On the 4th the second division, under captain Anderson, embarked at Trois-rivières on board the steam-boat, and on the 6th of November landed at Montreal, as the last division of the second battalion was marching out for Prescott. On the following day, Sunday the 7th, the battalion was inspected by sir George Prevost in the Champ de Mars.

Until the loss of the flotilla on lake Erie, and the defeat of major-general Proctor, the British had been successful in all their operations: the american army was defeated by major-general Vincent, when generals Chandler and Winter were taken prisoners; whilst the remnant of their force effected its retreat, with considerable loss, to Fort George, upon lake Ontario, where

they had about 4000 men, and at Niagara, on the opposite side of the river, 2000 : these divisions were watched by the british force under major-generals De Rottenburg and St. Vincent.

It having been ascertained on the 8th of November that the american army, under general Wilkinson, was descending the St. Lawrence, and had already passed the fort of Prescott, about 100 miles from Montreal, the first battalion moved forward about 15 miles to La Chine, on lake St. Louis, where the rocket company under lieutenant Balchild arrived on the 10th, whilst lieutenant Stevens with 2 six-pounders proceeded to Coteau du Lac, on lake St. Francis. The force assembled to oppose the landing of major-general Wilkinson consisted of the battalion of marines, three battalions of embodied militia, two troops of the 19th light dragoons, and a volunteer corps ; but the progress of the american army was arrested by colonel Morrison of the 87th, who, with the assistance of captain Mulcaster of the navy, commanding a division of gun-boats, defeated the enemy on the 11th of November near Cornwall, taking 400 prisoners, and a six-pounder gun.

The second battalion, with the artillery company, were ordered from Coteau du Lac to Prescott, whilst the first proceeded to Isle aux Noix, where it arrived on the 24th ; and lieutenant-colonel Williams relieved lieutenant-colonel Weller in command of that garrison, which consisted of the first battalion of marines with its company of artillery, and a company of the 10th veteran battalion ; amounting altogether to 720 rank and file. Lieutenant John E. Jones, R. M., was appointed fort-adjutant.

Isle aux Noix is a low flat island, 1500 yards in length and 400 in breadth, situated about 250 yards from the right bank of the river, and 400 from the left. The passage on the right side is obstructed by a sliding boom, moored with anchors ; and on the latter by a *chevaux-de-frise*, sunk across the river by means of heavy stones. Its main defence consisted of an irregular fort on the eastern side, close to the river ; of a strong redoubt on the western side, and to the southward of these two

works was a redoubt which enfiladed the river as far as Mill Point, where it takes a new direction to the westward. The banks of the river being low, and covered with wood, the island was not liable to be attacked by batteries at a less distance than 600 yards; and near to the island the trees had been felled, to prevent the approach of troops unperceived.

1814.

On the 30th of March, lieutenant-colonel Williams having received information that 1500 of the enemy had crossed the Province at Odel's town, detached the flank companies of the 13th regiment, under captain Holgate, to the Cole Mill, where that officer learnt that the enemy had advanced with 6000 men and three field-pieces. In front of the mill, upon the right bank of the river, there was a space of about 150 yards entirely cleared of wood; and just within the wood, and opposite the gable end of the building, the enemy had planted a twelve-pounder gun, and near to it a 5½-inch howitzer. On the arrival of the flank companies of the 13th regiment, they formed on the side of the river; then advancing in line, obliqued to the left, and brought their right flank opposite the gun, the discharge of which, accompanied by the fire of musketry, compelled them to retire with considerable loss. At this moment the grenadier company of the canadian fencibles, which was posted at Bretonville, arrived, unmolested by the enemy, and entered the block-house from the rear. Lieutenant Samuel Barton of the marines having volunteered to lead a second charge, the flank companies of the 13th, the company of the canadian fencibles, and a company of voltigeurs, were formed in sections; and although they advanced boldly close to the muzzle of the gun, they were again repulsed by the destructive fire of the enemy's musketry. Lieutenant Barton was left senseless close to the gun, but recovering himself, he, soon after dark, crept through the wood and regained the mill.

The enemy, from their exposed situation, and under the de-

destructive fire from a loop-holed building, had suffered considerably. The British force, which resisted the attack of the Americans upon this post with 5000 men and a considerable train of artillery, did not exceed 550 men. Captain Pring of the royal navy, who had moored a sloop and a gun-boat for the support of the troops, kept up a galling and destructive fire, and he was most active and zealous in landing two field-pieces, and getting them into the block-house.

Lieutenants Caldwell and Barton received the approbation of the commander-in-chief for their gallant conduct on this occasion. The loss sustained by the British amounted to 10 rank and file killed; one captain, one subaltern, 2 serjeants, 42 rank and file wounded, and 4 missing.

The detachment of royal marines at La Cole mill was commanded by brevet-major Lynch, having under his orders lieutenants Barton and Wesley. During the attack of the mill, the commanding officer was desirous to send a despatch to lieutenant-colonel Williams, and as the enemy had cut off the communication with the island by the road, it became very difficult to forward a message; under these circumstances a private of the royal marines, named J. Brown, volunteered his services. The despatch, enclosed in thin lead, was placed in his mouth, and the gallant fellow, passing along the side of the river under a heavy fire from the Americans on the opposite bank, reached the Isle aux Noix in safety. On the following day the promotion of Brown appeared in the battalion orders.

Apprehensive of a second attack on La Cole, lieutenant-colonel Williams reinforced the post by placing 3 eighteen-pounder caronades in battery at the block-house, and four gun-boats were added to the flotilla, on board of which lieutenants Phillips and Coulter with 50 rank and file were embarked; but finding the information incorrect, the flotilla dropt down to the Isle aux Noix, and the marines disembarked.

On the 8th of May captain Lynch, first-lieutenants Coulter and Ashmore, 5 serjeants, 5 corporals, 1 drummer, and 89 pri-

vates embarked on board the Linnet 18-gun brig ; and on the 9th first-lieutenant Phillips and second-lieutenant Graham, with 4 serjeants and 112 rank and file, on board the gun-boats. At 11 A. M. on that day, the whole of the flotilla under captain Pring passed through the boom, greeted by three hearty cheers from the garrison. On the same evening the gun-boats, which, with the exception of two sailors and a gunner of the marine artillery in each, were manned from the battalion, lost sight of the Linnet and the two armed cutters, and did not see them again until the 11th. On the morning of the arrival of these vessels at the head of the lake, the gun-boats had been in action about an hour with a battery mounting 7 guns. After smart firing on both sides, some of the enemy's guns were dismounted, and before the gun-boats were recalled by signal from the brig, the fire of the Americans was reduced to one gun. This battery was on a point of land at the entrance of a small river, up which, and about three miles distant, was a dock-yard, where the vessels were fitting out that a short time afterwards defeated our squadron in Platsburg bay. The object of the expedition was to sink three sloops at the entrance of the river, and to destroy the enemy's works ; it is therefore difficult to account for the recall of the gun-boats at the moment when success had crowned their gallant efforts, and the battery might have been speedily stormed. As soon as the gun-boats rejoined the commodore, the whole flotilla returned to the island, which was now reinforced by the light company of the 49th, and three companies of the 13th regiment.

At this period an order was received by lieutenant-colonel Williams from the Admiralty, directing the second battalion to be broken up, and divided in the flotilla and squadron as might be expedient, after completing the deficiencies in the first battalion.

The want of judgment evinced in this arrangement was not less conspicuous, than the ignorance exhibited in sending across the Atlantic to Quebec, and thence up the St. Lawrence to Kings-

ton, the very same timber, now modelled for the construction of vessels, which a year or two before had descended that river, instead of forwarding artificers to the Canadas ; who would in half the time have built a navy on the very borders of the lakes, that would have maintained, without any hazard, the very sovereignty to which we aspired. For although the Admiralty might regret that they had, for a time, lost the control over the two battalions, and notwithstanding the impatience of commodore sir James Yeo to possess an undisputed command over the royal marines serving in the Canadas, there were considerations far more important for their lordships' attention.

"The breaking up," (as the Commissioners of the Admiralty emphatically termed it) of the second battalion, was most impolitic ; for whilst that measure dissolved the ties that united them as a corps, it militated against the respect due from the men to their officers ; and as the severity of the climate rendered the ships useless during several months in the year, it became expedient to disembark the crews, and place them in barracks. Under these circumstances, instead of separating the corps, a head-quarters should have been established at Kingston ; whence, in the season for operations on the lakes, a supply of marines might have been furnished to the flotilla. Moreover, it would have enabled lieutenant-colonel Malcolm, and the staff of his battalion, to recruit the various wants of his force ; and after the services of the summer season had terminated, that officer would have possessed the opportunity to renew their discipline, which in ships of war is of so mixed and capricious a nature, as to render it a difficult task to restore it to its proper medium.

A general order, dated the 5th of May, directed the distribution of the second battalion ; but fortunately that order did not reach Kingston before their embarkation, under the orders of lieutenant-general Drummond, on an expedition which proved entirely successful, and in which the Royal Marines bore a conspicuous part.

This event was thus announced in general orders :

“ Adjutant-general’s Office, Montreal, 12th May, 1814.

“ His excellency the governor in chief and commander of the forces has the highest gratification in announcing to the troops, that he has received from lieutenant-general Drummond a despatch reporting a most spirited and successful attack upon the enemy’s fort and position at Oswego, which was carried by assault at noon on the 6th instant.

“ The lieutenant-general reports, that having caused six companies of the regiment De Watteville, and one company of Glegg’s light infantry, with a small detachment of artillery, to embark on board the squadron, in addition to the second battalion of Royal Marines, he accompanied sir James Yeo in the Prince Regent, and on the evening of the 5th the squadron anchored off Oswego. A violent gale of wind driving the squadron off the shore, the position was not recovered until noon on the following day, when the disposition for landing was instantly carried into effect.

“ The frigates took a position whence they could cannonade the fort, whilst the brigs, schooners, and gun-boats, in proportion to their respective draught of water, covered the several points of debarkation, which, owing to the shoalness of the water, was attended with considerable difficulty. The boats grounding, the troops were, in many instances, obliged to leap out and wade through the water up to their middle; and the enemy, having strongly occupied the favourable position near the shore, and the woods by which it is surrounded, the disembarkation was attended with some loss. It was nevertheless effected with the utmost promptitude, under the direction of lieutenant-colonel Fischer, led by the two newly-formed flank companies of De Watteville’s, under captain Bersey; the remaining four companies, and detachments of royal artillery, being held in reserve.

“ The second battalion of royal marines, under lieutenant-

colonel Malcolm, supported by a detachment of seamen under captain Mulcaster of the royal navy, formed a second column to the right; captain M'Millan's company of the Glengarry light infantry occupied the skirts of the wood to the left, and supported the advance of the columns to the fort, which was gained and carried in ten minutes from the advance of the troops after landing: the enemy's garrison, consisting of Marcombe's 3rd regiment of artillery, 400 strong, and a numerous militia, saving themselves by a precipitate flight.

"Lieutenant-general Drummond speaks in the highest terms of the cordial, judicious, and able co-operation of commodore sir James Yeo, and the officers and seamen of his squadron; and laments the temporary loss the service has sustained in captain Mulcaster of the royal navy, who was severely wounded: the eminent services of that officer, and of captains O'Connor, Popham, and Collier, are particularly noticed.

"The lieutenant-general bestows the highest praise on the cool and judicious conduct of lieutenant-colonels Fischer and Malcolm, and the intrepid gallantry displayed by captains Bersey and M'Millan in covering the advance.

"Lieutenant-colonel Pearson, inspecting field-officer, and major Smith 103rd regiment, who being passengers in the fleet volunteered their services, captain Cullenden, royal artillery, brevet-major Coulston of De Watteville's, lieutenant Stevens, rocket company, lieutenant Laurie of the royal marines, who led the first party that entered the fort, and lieutenant Hewett of the same corps, who climbed the flag-staff and pulled down the American colours, which were nailed to it, are respectively noticed by the lieutenant-general; who represents, in the strongest terms, the zealous and able assistance he has experienced on this, and on every other occasion, from the deputy adjutant-general, lieutenant-colonel Harvey, and also from his aide-de-camp, captain Jarvoise.

"It is particularly gratifying to his excellency to have to notice, to the high honour of both branches of the service, that

although surrounded by temptation, there was not a sailor or soldier missing, nor a single instance of intoxication. The service has lost a brave and meritorious officer in captain Holt-away, of the royal marines.

"Every object of the expedition being accomplished, the barracks burnt, the fort dismantled, and all the public stores, which were not brought away, destroyed, the troops re-embarked at four o'clock on the following morning, and the squadron sailed for Kingston.

"The enemy lost 100 killed and 60 prisoners, the greater part wounded. On the part of the British :

"Second battalion royal marines, 1 captain, 2 serjeants, 4 rank and file killed ; 1 serjeant, 32 rank and file wounded. De Watteville's, 1 drummer, 7 rank and file killed ; 1 captain, 1 subaltern, 1 serjeant, 17 rank and file wounded. Glengarry, 9 rank and file wounded. Total, 1 captain, 3 serjeants, 1 drummer, 11 rank and file killed ; 1 captain, 1 subaltern, 2 serjeants, 58 rank and file wounded.

"Royal navy, 3 seamen killed, captains Mulcaster and Popham, J. Richardson, master, and 7 seamen wounded.

"Ordnance taken and destroyed : 4 thirty-two pounder, 4 twenty-four pounder, 2 twelve-pounder, and 2 six-pounder iron guns. Total, 11. One schooner and several boats, laden with ordnance stores, were brought away ; three schooners and other craft destroyed."

The militia force, which attempted to oppose the landing, retreated to the Falls, about ten miles higher up the river, to protect an iron-foundry and dépôt of stores ; and they were followed by the artillery corps, who ran out of the fort when it was assaulted.

Captain Richard Parry, who now arrived from England to command the 2nd artillery company, vice Montgomery resigned, was ordered to relieve captain Jackson of the royal artillery at Fort Wellington.

After the return of the flotilla from lake Champlain, it was

moored between the west-end of La Cole river and Ash island. One captain and a subaltern were added to the post at La Cole, and the detachment, as before, consisted of 80 rank and file of royal marines, and two companies of the 13th regiment. On board the flotilla there was a captain, 2 subalterns, and 100 men; and on the 13th of June lieutenants Wesley and Toby, 5 serjeants, and 123 rank and file were sent up in batteaux, to man the gun-boats more effectually. At this time the enemy's flotilla was equipped, and having now moved down the river, was moored across the lake, between the west-end of Isle de la Motte and Chary. In the early part of July, the reinforcement mentioned above, under lieutenants Wesley and Toby, returned to the Isle aux Noix.

On the return of the flotilla to Kingston after the capture of Oswego, a force consisting of several gun-boats, in which were embarked lieutenants Thomas Cox and Patrick M'Veagh of the late second battalion, with 80 men under the immediate orders of captain Popham, R.N., was detached to intercept the enemy's vessels passing thence to Sackett's harbour. Having on the 28th of May chased a small convoy of boats into the narrow inlet called Sandy Creek, the British imprudently ventured to attack them, and the whole detachment, amounting to about 180 persons, were captured by a body of the enemy concealed in the woods. On this occasion that gallant and repeatedly distinguished officer, lieutenant Cox, was killed; and lieutenant M'Veagh mortally wounded.

Captain Short of the royal marines, having been sent on shore with a detachment at Pultneyville, by order of sir James Yeo, to bring off some stores, was fired upon by the enemy and compelled to re-embark, the captain and several of his men being wounded.

On the 13th of July lieutenant-colonel Williams received orders from the Admiralty to consider the first battalion at the disposal of sir James Yeo, for the service of the squadron upon the lakes; and he was directed to proceed with the remainder to

Bermuda, and there place himself under the orders of sir Alexander Cochrane.

The following order was issued by the commander of the forces :—

“ *Montreal, August 16th, 1814.*

“ In compliance with instructions received from his Majesty’s secretary of state, the first battalion of Royal Marines is to be disposed for naval service.”

In consequence of this order, the distribution was as follows :—

For lake Ontario,—3 captains, 2 first-lieutenants, 2 second-lieutenants, 6 serjeants, 5 corporals, 3 drummers, 310 privates.

For lake Champlain,—1 captain, 3 first-lieutenants, 8 serjeants, 8 corporals, 2 drummers, 160 privates.

Total,—4 captains, 5 first-lieutenants, 2 second-lieutenants, 14 serjeants, 13 corporals, 5 drummers, and 470 privates ; and the assistant-surgeon to proceed to lake Ontario.

“ The detachments for Upper Canada are to be at Chateaugay on the 24th instant, to be conveyed in boats to Kingston ; and on the same day the force for lake Champlain is to be delivered over to the naval officers on that station.

“ Lieutenant-colonel Williams, with the staff and the residue of the men, which is to comprise the non-effective and less capable of service, to proceed to Chambly, thence to Quebec to be conveyed to Halifax.

“ The commander-in-chief of the forces, in complying with the orders of government in the disposal of the battalions of Royal Marines, considers it an act of justice to that valuable and respectable corps, to declare his entire approbation of the correct conduct and steady discipline that have uniformly characterized the royal marines since their arrival in Canada.

“ The first battalion, under lieutenant-colonel Williams, in the exact and diligent discharge of the duties assigned to it, in the occupation of the most critical and important position on this frontier, has evinced, in a manner highly honourable to the

corps, the talents and judgment of the commander, the intelligence and vigilance of the officers, and the tried fidelity and discipline of the corps.

“The second battalion, under lieutenant-colonel Malcolm, was afforded an opportunity of manifesting its gallantry and devotion to the service in the assault of the fort of Oswego.

“His excellency desires that lieutenant-colonel Williams will communicate his sentiments, as expressed in this order, to the officers and soldiers of the Royal Marines under his command.

“Lieutenants Fennell and Jones are to continue in discharge of the duties of their present station, until further orders.

(Signed)

EDWARD BAYNES,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL”

Thus, after four years' assiduous attention to the duties of his profession,—having by patience and steady perseverance overcome any laxity of discipline and bad habit acquired in former periods of service, and established a uniformity that rendered the battalion efficient for active service in the field,—did the Admiralty, in their wisdom, destroy all the advantages which the unwearied zeal of its distinguished commander had accomplished; and the decision of their lordships excited universal dissatisfaction in the corps.

At this moment there was a general peace in Europe, and it was therefore most extraordinary that the government should direct the dismemberment of the battalion of marines, when there were so many men disposable at the head-quarters of the divisions in England. On separating, the officers drew lots for their detachments.

On the 21st of August captains Stuart and Smith, with lieutenants Coulter, Phillips, Toby, and Hinton, marched with the detachment for lake Ontario; and on the 24th, captain Anderson, with lieutenant Caldwell and the detachment to complete the flotilla on lake Richelieu, were placed at the disposal of the senior naval officer. The remainder of the battalion, under

major Mortimer, embarked on the 25th in batteaux at the Isle aux Noix for St. John's, whence they marched by Chambly and Sorrel for Quebec.

Lieutenant Jones, at his own request, remained as fort-adjutant, and lieutenant Fennell (who had been extremely active in the advance-posts on the frontier, where he had been stationed with lieutenant Robinson and a detachment during the entire winter and spring,) continued at that post. The party of marines under his orders had been relieved by the militia, and that at La Cole by the 13th regiment.

The appointment by sir John Borlase Warren of assistant-surgeon Wilson to that of surgeon, vice Farnden resigned, was not confirmed by the Admiralty; and surgeon Richardson, by their appointment, joined the battalion at St. John's on the 25th of August, on their march down the country. Brevet-major Lynch and captain D. Campbell, having been surveyed and invalided, were permitted to proceed to England.

On the 28th of August the battalion continued its march for William Henry, or Sorrel, at the entrance of the Richelieu; and from the latter place it was conveyed in the steam-boat to Quebec, where it embarked on board the Dover troop-ship.

On the 11th of September the flotilla on lake Camplain, consisting of the *Confiance* mounting 37 guns, captain Downie, *Linnet* 16-gun brig, captain Pring, sloops *Cherub* of 10, and *Finch* of 8 guns, and ten gun-boats, mounting between them 2 long twenty-four, 5 long eighteen-pounder, and 6 thirty-two pounder carronades, with 294 men,—making a total of 85 guns, and 714 men, attacked the american squadron under commodore Macdonough, consisting of the *Saratoga*, mounting 26 guns, brig *Eagle* 20 guns, schooner *Ticonderoga* of 17 guns, sloop *Preble* of 7 guns, and ten gun-boats; making a total of 86 guns and 981 men. It had been preconcerted by sir George Prevost, that the army should co-operate by attacking the american forces under general Marcomb, who were encamped close to the anchorage of their squadron. In this persuasion captain Downie

led his ships to the attack ; and although he found, when too late, that his confidence in the british general was misplaced, he at 8 h. 10 m. gallantly placed the *Confiance* abreast of the *Saratoga*, whilst the *Linnet* and *Chubb* took their allotted stations ; but the latter presently had her boom shot away, and drifting within the enemy's line, was compelled to surrender.

The *Finch*, in proceeding to her station, had the misfortune to strike on a reef of rocks off Crabb island, and was compelled to haul down her colours. Eight of the gun-boats made off almost as soon as the firing commenced, so that the *Confiance* and *Linnet* had to contend with the whole of the enemy's force. Captain Downie was killed fifteen minutes after the commencement of the action, when the command devolved on lieutenant Robertson, who fought the ship until she was reduced to a defenceless state ; and at 10 h. 30 m. she hauled down her colours. Soon afterwards the *Linnet* also surrendered.

The loss on board the *Confiance* amounted to 41 killed, including captain Downie, and captain Anderson of the marines, and about 60 wounded. The *Linnet* had 10 men killed and 13 wounded ; the *Chubb* 6 killed and 16 wounded ; and the *Finch* 2 wounded. Total british loss, 57 killed and 92 wounded. American loss, 52 killed and 58 wounded.

On Sunday the 9th of November, the *Ceylon*, conveying the first battalion of royal marines, and the *Queen* transport with american prisoners, and an escort under three subalterns, sailed from Quebec, and anchored in Halifax harbour on the 25th. The battalion was then ordered to proceed to the southward, and to follow the directions of rear-admiral Cockburn.

At this time the first battalion (the eight companies of which were kept up until the period of its being disbanded at Portsmouth in July 1815,) was officered thus :—

Lieutenant-colonel Williams. Major Arnett, for about three months, (having joined at Cumberland island, vice Mortimer). Captain T. L. Wills. First-lieutenants George O'Neill, Charles Robinson, and Samuel Barton. Second-lieutenants S. R. Wes-

ley and Fortescue Graham (adjutant). First-lieutenant Valentine Griffiths, quarter-master. First-lieutenant J. Mitten, brigade-major. Captain Steele, paymaster; with 26 serjeants, 22 corporals, 11 drummers, and 46 privates.

A corps was now formed of the refugee blacks, incorporated with the marines, but in distinct companies.

Lieutenant-colonel Malcolm, with the staff of the second battalion, and the officers not required on the naval service of the lakes, had opportunely arrived in Chesapeake bay before the debarkation of the troops under major-general Ross. A battalion of marines, about 1000 strong, had arrived from England under the command of major George Lewis; and lieutenant-colonel Malcolm was directed to take command of this force, which was to be called the second battalion. But previous to this arrangement, three companies were drafted from it and added to the corps of blacks, or colonial marines, which was now called the third battalion, and the command given to major George Lewis. Some time previously a detachment of about 80 men, principally non-commissioned officers, had been sent from Bermuda to the Gulf of Mexico, under brevet-major Nicolls, on whom the commander-in-chief had conferred the local rank of lieutenant-colonel, and whose object was to co-operate with a body of Indians in the vicinity of Mobile.

The total destruction of the flotilla under commodore Barney in the Patuxent by the expedition under sir George Cockburn, gave an opening to major-general Ross to push forward to the city of Washington, and that officer's gallant exertions were crowned with complete success. But it is to be lamented, that in a reconnoissance which the major-general afterwards made on Baltimore, his valuable services were lost to his country. It appears, that having incautiously advanced in front of the column, attended by a detachment of about thirty men, he was attacked from the woods on the road-side by considerable numbers of the enemy, who were finally repulsed; and general Ross, hastening to the rear to order forward the troops, had not pro-

ceeded two hundred yards before he was mortally wounded by a musket-ball.

Lieutenant-colonel Malcolm and major Lewis, with the second battalion and part of the third, accompanied the army in the advance upon Baltimore. Major Lewis, from ill-health, was compelled to resign the command of the third battalion to captain Clements, and the major returned to England. Lieutenant-colonel Malcolm, with captain Barrie of the royal navy, made several debarkations in the Chesapeake, skirmishing with the enemy's troops, and destroying considerable property.

The Ceylon, with the head-quarters of the first battalion, arrived at the appointed rendezvous at the entrance of St. Mary's river, state of Georgia, where she continued to cruise until joined by the Rota frigate on the 25th of December, from New Providence, with the flank companies of the 2nd west-india regiment under the command of captain Bradey.

On the 6th of January the Dragon 74, captain Barrie, arrived, accompanied by the Severn frigate, Regulus and Brune troopships, and Terror bomb, bringing a detachment of royal marine artillery, with 2 light six-pounders, and a 5½-inch howitzer, under captain Harrison, and the second and third battalions of marines; the former commanded by captain Cole, in the absence of lieutenant-colonel Malcolm, who was with rear-admiral Cockburn, and the latter by captain Clements. The black troops, accustomed to the climate of New Providence, which is five degrees to the southward of St. Mary's, felt the cold so severely, that many had their feet frost-bitten, and several amputations were performed, although the thermometer in a gale at north-west was not below 48° at noon.

As the rear-admiral had not arrived, and the squadron was much in need of water, captain Somerville of the Rota opened the instructions of the commander-in-chief; and finding that the object of the expedition was to possess and permanently occupy Cumberland island, the whole of the effective force, consisting of about 950 rank and file, including the artillery, were pre-

pared to land. The colonial battalion did not muster above 120 white men, the rest were blacks wretchedly equipped; some without blankets, others without great-coats, and scarcely a havresac or a canteen amongst them, and many even without shoes. In this brigade lieutenant-colonel Williams was the only field-officer, and there were but seven captains fit for duty. The first and second battalions numbered conjointly 560, the flank companies of the west-india regiment 190, and the ships' marines 120; forming a total of 938.

On the 10th of January captain Barrie of the Dragon, and lieutenant-colonel Williams with 150 men, landed at St. Andrew's High-point; but the road being almost impassable they re-embarked, and it was not until 10 p.m. that they effected a landing with 300, and bivouacked for the night. At daylight on the 11th they marched towards the south end of the island, and on their arrival at St. Andrew's sound at 2 p.m., the enemy fired alarm guns. The squadron was anchored at so great a distance, that it was not until the second day that 700 men had landed, and none of the artillery had yet reached the shore.

It was now determined to make an attack upon Point Pitre, where the enemy had a battery mounting six or seven heavy guns, situated at the extremity of a marshy point of land. On the causeway leading to the battery there was a field-piece, and the barracks for the troops was situated about 500 yards to the rear of the works.

At midnight the british troops, amounting to 600 men, quitted the camp, leaving lieutenant Stevens of the 3rd battalion and 100 men at the post of Dungeness. At 8 a.m. the troops landed in rear of the fort, while the boats made a demonstration on Point Pitre, and the country being flat and woody, it became necessary to move a strong party in advance. Lieutenant Fraser, commanding a company of the second battalion, one company of the 2nd west-india regiment, and a company of the colonials under lieutenant Agassiz, forming a total of 160 men, were ordered on this service; the whole commanded by captain Lord

of the light company of the 2nd west-india regiment. These were followed by a midshipman and 6 sailors with rockets, who preceded the main column, and the reserve consisted of 50 men, commanded by captain Carter. The road being narrow, the troops marched in sections of threes; when, unexpectedly, the advance was fired upon by a company of rifles and a detachment of the 43rd united-states infantry. Captain Lord pressed forward into the wood, and after a skirmish of about a quarter of an hour dispersed the enemy. The british loss in this attack amounted to 1 killed and 1 wounded of the second battalion, and 3 wounded of the 2nd west-india regiment. The Americans hauled down the colours on the approach of the British, and quitted the fort. Captain Wills of the first battalion, with 150 men, remained at Point Pitre, whilst the column moved towards St. Mary's, which they reached at 10 A. M. on the following day. On the 14th rear-admiral Cockburn and lieutenant-colonel Malcolm landed at St. Mary's, and having determined on evacuating the place and return to Cumberland island, the battery at Point Pitre was destroyed, and the detachment under captain Wills withdrawn on the 23rd, when the troops embarked on board the Terror and Devastation bombs; and on the following day they were landed and encamped on Cumberland island.

This island is about 1000 yards in breadth, the greater part marshy and covered with an impenetrable brushwood; but the troops occupied a space that had been cleared, of about 1000 yards in length and 350 yards wide. In rear of an extensive marsh 2500 yards in length, and nearly as broad, bounded on the south by a wood, a deep creek 40 yards wide runs through its whole extent, from the south end to the rear of the spot occupied by the British, on which was a large building called Dungeness-house, very capable of defence, and not easily destroyed even with cannon. This place was fortified, and the six guns brought from Point Pitre mounted in front of it; whilst the two bombs and the Erebus rocket-ship were anchored so as to enfilade the whole face of the work. On the 25th lieutenant

Madden, with the marines of the Lacedemonian, marched to St. Andrew's high cliff, where the troops first landed, and were joined by those of the Surprise; and captain sir Thomas Cochrane of that ship landed 2 twelve-pounders, and placed them in battery on the cliff. The colonial corps was posted at Sandys's, where there was a strong guard, and cavalry patrols passed day and night from one end of the island to the other. Captain Cole of the second battalion, with 4 subalterns and 80 rank and file, were detached to St. Simon's island, which is five miles to the northward of Cumberland, where he landed without opposition; and after remaining three weeks returned, accompanied by 500 black refugees, who had deserted from their owners.

On the 28th of July the Charybdis brig arrived from the Mississippi, bringing brevet-majors Arnett and Kinsman, and captain Epworth, who were appointed respectively to the first, third, and second battalions. On the 9th of February the Hebrus frigate arrived with intelligence, which she had obtained from an english schooner, that peace with the United States was ratified on the 27th of December; but this account was not sufficiently credited to induce the British to relax in their exertions to render their position tenable, under the active superintendence of second-lieutenant F. Graham, who did the duty of assistant-engineer.

On the 23rd of February captain Lord of the 2nd west-india regiment, with lieutenants Fraser of the marines, Dalhousie of the 2nd regiment, and 48 men of the second battalion, under the direction of captain Phillott of the Primrose brig, and captain Bartholomew of the Erebus rocket-ship, embarked in eight launches and two pinnaces, and ascended 180 miles of the river St. Mary's without opposition. A heavy fire of musketry was opened upon them from both sides, and they were compelled to retreat, pursued by the enemy until it became dark; having sustained a loss of 2 marines killed, captains Phillott and Bartholomew, 9 seamen, and 7 marines wounded. Thus terminated,

unsuccessfully, the last hostile act between the troops of Great Britain and the United States. On the 26th preparation was made for evacuating the island, the guns were embarked from the battery, and the companies of the 2nd west-india regiment conveyed on board the squadron; and on the 13th of March the whole british force quitted Cumberland island. The brigade then consisted of the first, second, and third battalions, with artillery of the second battalion; 2 lieutenant-colonels, 3 majors, 6 captains, 13 first and 16 second-lieutenants, 3 pay-masters, 3 adjutants, 3 quarter-masters, 3 surgeons, 6 staff-serjeants, 83 serjeants, 40 drummers, and 1060 rank and file. The ship detachments varied in point of strength, but the greatest force of the brigade never exceeded 1250 rank and file.

Lieutenant-colonel Malcolm and the second battalion embarked on board the Dragon; in the Albion the first battalion, with the exception of major Arnett, 4 subalterns, surgeon, and quarter-master, who were on board the Ceylon with the heavy baggage and 51 sick. There were also in the Albion eight or nine officers of marines who had served in the attack of New Orleans, and had been ordered to join the force at Cumberland island.

The original object of the expedition to the coast of Georgia was the attack of Savannah: and it was intended that a force of 4000 or 5000 men should be collected for that purpose from the army before New Orleans, in the supposition that it would have proved an easy conquest; and it was expected that major Nicolls, with his battalion and the co-operating Indians, by crossing the country from Apalchicola, would form a junction with the british troops somewhere upon the Alcamatra.

The Dragon sailed on the 17th of March, followed by the Terror, Ceylon, and Devastation, and arrived at Bermuda on the 29th.

Lieutenant-colonels Williams and Malcolm had both the honour of being included among the knights of the second class of the Bath on the 2nd of January, 1815.

The following orders were issued by the rear-admiral :—



" Albion, Bermuda, 7th April, 1815

SIR,

It affords me much pleasure to have in orders from the commander-in-chief to communicate to you his entire satisfaction at the judicious and spirited manner in which, with the marines and soldiers under your immediate command, you co-operated with captain Barrie at the capture of Cumberland island, and on the advance to St. Mary's ; and his high approbation of the zeal and exertions manifested by you during the whole of the operations lately carrying on, under my orders, against the enemy ; to which he has been pleased to inform me that he has requested the notice and consideration of my lords' commissioners of the Admiralty. And I must beg you will permit me, at the same time, to request your acceptance of my acknowledgments for the able, ready, and cheerful co-operation and assistance I so invariably met with from you, during the time you have been acting with me in the enemy's country.

I have the honour to be, sir,

&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) GEORGE COCKBURN,
REAR-ADMIRAL."

" To Lieut.-col. sir Richard Williams, K.C.B."

" H. M. S. Albion, Bermuda, 7th April, 1815.

GENTLEMEN,

In taking leave of the several captains, field-officers, commanders, other officers, seamen and marines lately composing the force acting against the enemy in Georgia, the Chesapeake, &c. &c., I have the highest satisfaction in having the directions of the commander-in-chief to convey to them his entire approbation of their good conduct, and of their invariable zeal and exertions in their country's service, as set forth in my reports ; and to which he has informed me he will not fail to draw the notice and consideration of my lords' commissioners of the Admiralty.

Whilst promulgating this flattering testimony of the comman-

der-in-chief's favourable consideration of the services of the forces lately acting under my orders, I cannot refrain from making known to them also, that their invariable cheerful, gallant, and steady conduct was as gratifying to me as honourable to themselves, and for which I must therefore beg to offer them my warmest acknowledgments, and to assure them how happy it will make me to have again the good fortune of acting with them, in the event of our country calling for our mutual services at any future period.

(Signed) G. COCKBURN,
REAR-ADMIRAL."
"To the respective Captains,
Field-officers, Commanders, &c. &c."

FIRST BATTALION.

Lieutenant-colonel,—Richard Williams.

Majors,—Thomas Abernethie, Richard Graham.

Brevet-major,—George Mortimer.

Captains,—Henry Cox, Robert B. Lynch, James M. Johnson, Thomas Mould (pay-master), Edward N. Lowder, Dougal Stewart, Duncan Campbell, Alexander Anderson (killed on lake Champlain), Thomas Lake Wills, and James S. Smith.

First-lieutenants,—Henry John Murton, Edward Naylor, William Pridham, W. H. Kempster, J. C. Steward, W. H. Strangers, Thomas Pollock, Giles Meech, John O'Neal, Archibald Dunlop, Valentine Griffith (quarter-master), John Mitten (adjutant), Thomas Robert Pye, John Fennell (wounded in Canada), John E. Jones (brigade-major in Chesapeake, and fort-major at Isle aux Noix), John Ashmore, W. C. Jones, William Robert Caldwell, Thomas Rees Thomas, John Coulter, Charles Robinson, Samuel Barton, and John A. Phillips.

Second-lieutenants,—Fortescue Graham, Joseph Childs, W. O. Atchison, S. Robert Wesley, Isaac Toby, and John S. Hinton.

ARTILLERY.

Captains,—Charles F. Burton, John Montgomery.

First-lieutenants,—W. H. Kempster (adjutant), John Law-

rence, Richard Jeffereys, James H. Harrison, Richard C. Steele (adjutant), and W. H. Devon.

Second-lieutenant,—George Holton.

ROCKET COMPANY.

First-lieutenants,—George E. Balchild, John H. Stevens.

SECOND BATTALION.

Major,—James Malcolm.

Brevet-major,—William Barry.

Captains,—Bartleman, Thomas Sterling, M. R. Glaze, James Short, William Holtaway, Thomas Weaver (pay-master), George Peebles, James Jones, James S. Pilcher, William Jordan, William Steel (wounded at Craney island), and Joseph Williams.

Second-captain,—George Richards.

First-lieutenants,—William M. Burton (adjutant), John Morgan, James Laurie, H. Miller, Lewis Rooke, Edmund M. Wills, Charles C. Pratt, John Hewett, Thomas S. Cox (killed at Sandy Creek), George Lloyd, George B. Puddicombe (quarter-master), and Alexander Cameron (killed in Canada).

Second-lieutenants,—Charles Edward Atkins, J. H. Mallard, Patrick M'Veagh (killed at Sandy Creek), Henry G. Stevenson.

ARTILLERY.

Captains,—Thomas A. Parke, Richard Parry.

First-lieutenants,—David Anderson (now Gibsone), John Wilson, and J. Vinicombe.

Second-lieutenants,—John Marsh (killed at assault of Fort Erie, 4th September, 1814), and George Furnival (died at Chambly camp).

Expedition to Holland.

Brevet-major, William Minto. Captains, Charles Frederick Burton, Thomas L. Lawrence. First-lieutenant, A. A. R. Wolrige. Second-lieutenants, John Barker, John Lewis, Robert Wright.

CHAPTER VII.

Services of the Third Battalion.

FROM 1813 to 1827.

THE disastrous retreat of the army of Napoléon at the close of 1813, enabled the Dutch to throw off the yoke of France, and England readily lent her assistance to restore the sovereignty of Holland to its legitimate monarch. At this period the whole of the british disposable military force was employed in the Peninsula; consequently a small battalion of the guards, and every man that could be spared from the divisions of marines, were ordered to proceed to the coast for embarkation. The sudden urgency of this movement exhibited in a high degree the spirit of the corps of marines; for among the detachments composing this force there were many who had recently returned from foreign service, with long arrears of pay, and who were equally unprepared in clothing to encounter a severe winter in the Netherlands; but nothing daunted, their loyalty was again conspicuous, and in a few hours after the receipt of the order the embarkation took place, with a cheerful obedience deserving the highest commendation.

The prince of Orange, accompanied by the earl of Clancarty, embarked in the *Warrior* of 74 guns, captain lord Torrington, and on approaching Scheveling, she was joined by several ships of war. The reception of his royal highness was most enthusiastic, and he was immediately proclaimed sovereign of the United Netherlands. The guards and part of the marines, who were already at the Hague, soon pushed forward to Helvoet-

sluys, Williamstadt, and other garrisons then occupied by the French ; and these places were successively evacuated on the approach of the British, the enemy falling back upon Antwerp. The other portion of the marines disembarked on the 17th of December upon South Beveland, and marched to the village of Crabben-dyke, at the extreme point of this important island, to keep in check the garrison of Fort Bathz. The marines of the 74-gun ship Cornwall, under captain Cox, also disembarked, and the whole were under the orders of major Bartleman ; but on the 19th a reinforcement of two companies arrived with major George Lewis, who assumed the command, and captain Owen of the Cornwall was appointed commandant of the island.

The cold was now intense, and being in an open village, ill provided with clothing, huddled together in barns, and sleeping on straw, the men suffered very severely ; whilst the repeated night attacks of the enemy on the advanced posts, made the duty extremely harassing.

On the 22nd, at daylight, the French advanced in force, supported by guns and cavalry, to dislodge the marines from their post at Crabben-dyke ; but after a sharp struggle and some loss, they were compelled to retire.

On the 25th, at daylight, the battalion, supported by two guns, having moved close under the walls of some unoccupied works in front of Fort Bathz to reconnoitre, became exposed to a heavy though ineffectual fire of shot and shell ; but during the preceding days they had sustained a loss of one serjeant and two privates killed, one serjeant and two privates missing. This severe and harassing service continued until the 4th of January, 1814, when the British were attacked by a very superior force of the enemy, who having surprised the dutch picquets, succeeded in turning their position ; but a small detachment of marine artillery, with a six-pounder gun, under lieutenant Ambrose A. R. Wolrige, kept up such a well-directed fire of grape, that the advanced party was enabled to retire upon a

more secure post. Although this officer had been severely wounded in the ankle, he nevertheless continued to direct his men, and by causing himself to be placed on the gun-limber as the party fell back, and taken down when the piece was discharged, his gallant exertions kept the enemy in check until a reinforcement arrived up; and then, by his able co-operation, the enemy was compelled to retreat.

Captain E. W. C. R. Owen, the commandant of the island, thus expresses himself in his official report of this exploit:—"The conduct of lieutenant Wolrige was highly meritorious, and his exertions on the occasion did certainly save the party in advance from heavy loss, if not from capture."

A detachment of Russian troops having arrived on the 18th, the marines embarked on board the *Diomède* and sailed for Portsmouth, where they arrived on the 21st; and, together with the detachments from other islands in the Scheldt, were formed into a *third* battalion, under the command of major Lewis, with the following officers:—

Captains,—N. Cole, M. Timson, Priddle, and Clements.

First-lieutenants,—G. Cull, P. Connolly, A. Stephens, R. Farmer, Fynmore J. R. Moriarty, Duguid, G. A. E. Sandwith, P. Bryson, and J. Fraser.

Second-lieutenants,—Bloomfield, R. W. Pascoe, T. Sullock, W. Allen, L. Agassiz, Young, D. Brisac, J. Colquhoun, Stacey, H. Walters, and L. De Thierry.

Adjutant,—Lieutenant J. J. Willes.

Pay and quarter-master,—Adamson.

It was composed of ten companies of 100 men each, with one company of marine artillery, under the following officers,—captain James H. Harrison, first-lieutenant J. A. Moore, second-lieutenant John Lewis. The embarkation of this force took place on the 29th of March on board the *Regulus*, *Melpomene*, and *Brune* troop-ships, and the artillery in the 80-gun ship *Tonnant*. The expedition sailed on the 7th of April, and on the 9th of June the battalion disembarked at Bermuda. By

the unrenmitting efforts of the officers it soon arrived at a high state of discipline and efficiency, which was zealously promoted by the commander-in-chief; and on the 19th sir Alexander Cochrane having reviewed the battalion, he was pleased to express his approbation in the most flattering terms.

The admiral having determined on a plan for the organization of the Indians in the neighbourhood of Apalachicola, under the direction of brevet-major Edward Nicolls, the following officers were detached under his command, with superior local rank :—

Edmund Nicolls, brevet-major lieut.-colonel.
 Robert Henry, second-lieutenant, *ma. art.* ...captain.
 William Allen, second-lieutenant.....captain.
 J. M'William, " " captain.
 J. Chapman, serjeantlieut. and adjt.
 — Goodser, assistant-surgeon, *R.N.*.....surgeon.

The further proceedings of major Nicolls and his battalion will be found at the close of this narrative.

The third battalion sailed for the Chesapeake on the 30th of June, where it joined the squadron under rear-admiral sir George Cockburn on the 16th of July; and on the 18th entered into a series of active operations, commencing by an attack on Leonard's-town.

At 3 h. 30 m. *A.M.* of the 19th, the battalion landed about seven miles below the town, and as the column advanced the boats of the squadron moved parallel with it. On the approach of the British the enemy evacuated the place, in which a quantity of stores, provisions, and tobacco were captured. On the following evening the troops re-embarked, having one serjeant and two privates wounded.

On the 20th the battalion proceeded up the river Nominy, and having landed and taken up a strong position in advance of the place, the stores were carried off, and the troops, after re-embarking, moved down the river, near the entrance of which they again landed in the rear of a large building, said to be


occupied by a body of militia and some field-pieces. The enemy fled on the approach of the British, who after burning the place returned to their respective ships, accompanied by two valuable schooners which had been captured. In consequence of some poisoned spirits having been found, placed in the way of the men at Nominy, the admiral on his return was induced to order the destruction of the houses on both sides the river.

On the 23rd the battalion entered a small creek in Clement's bay, and after some sharp skirmishing brought away four schooners. Having landed on the 26th a few miles from the entrance of Machodic creek, they halted at a ferry about two miles higher up, while the boats captured six schooners, which with 100 head of cattle were brought off, after some skirmishing with the enemy.

On the 30th they landed, and entered the town of Chaptico, where they found a quantity of forage and tobacco; and after passing two nights in the boats, the battalion returned to their respective ships.

On the 2nd of August the squadron dropped down the Potomac, near to the entrance of the Yocomico river, which the rear-admiral entered on the 3rd. The battalion landed under the fire of two field-pieces, and as the men had to wade a considerable distance to the shore, the guns were withdrawn before the British could reach them; but the Americans were rapidly pursued by skirmishers under lieutenant Athelstan Stephens, supported by the battalion, and after an advance of nine miles one gun was captured. Several houses, which had been converted into military dépôts, were burnt; and on the return of the marines to the place of debarkation, three companies were detached to the left, who having entered the town of Kensall, captured four schooners, together with a large quantity of tobacco and other stores. This service was accomplished with the small loss of one killed and one wounded.

On the 7th the rear-admiral proceeded to the Caan river, a few miles below the Yocomico. At daylight the battalion



moved towards the shore, and the boats having grounded at a considerable distance from it, the troops had to wade to the attack of a battery mounting three field-pieces; but the enemy soon fled, leaving a quantity of ammunition behind them, which, with the battery, was destroyed, and four schooners were brought off.

Lieutenant-colonel Malcolm, with the staff of the late second battalion, having joined from Canada, that officer took the command, and the third henceforward became the second battalion. On the 12th the rear-admiral proceeded up St. Mary's creek, and the marines landed in various parts of the country about that extensive inlet.

On the 14th sir Alexander Cochrane, the commander-in-chief, joined the squadron off the mouth of the Potomac, and on the 17th, rear-admiral Malcolm having arrived with a division of the army from France, consisting of the 4th, 21st, 44th, and 85th regiments, under command of major-general Ross, the whole proceeded to the Patuxent, situated about twenty miles further up the bay. In the mean time captain J. A. Gordon, in the Seahorse frigate, had been sent up the Potomac to bombard Fort Washington, situated on the left bank of the river, and about fourteen miles below the federal city; whilst the Menelaus, captain sir Peter Parker, proceeded up the Chesapeake, above Baltimore, to create a diversion in that quarter.


It being determined that the expedition should proceed up the Patuxent in their attack upon Washington, the ships moved up as high as the water would admit; and on the 19th and 20th the troops, amounting to about 4000 men, landed at Benedict, when the battalion was brigaded with the 21st fusileers, and bivouacked for the night near Nottingham.

On the 21st the army marched to Nottingham, and rear-admiral Cockburn, taking with him the armed boats of the fleet, having on board the marines from the ships under captain Robyns, and the marine artillery under captain James H.

Harrison, proceeded up the river to attack commodore Barney's flotilla, and at the same time to afford supplies and protection to the army as it moved up the right bank. On opening Pig-point, the flotilla under the american commodore was discovered, and the british boats advanced as rapidly as possible; but on nearing the enemy, the headmost vessel, bearing the commodore's pendant, was observed to be on fire, and she soon afterwards exploded, as did fifteen out of the sixteen remaining gun-boats, and the one which was not burnt was captured.

The destruction of this flotilla having been completed, the army encamped on the 22nd at the town of Marlborough, situated about four miles up the western branch of the Patuxent, and not more than eight from the american army under general Winder, at Long Old-fields, where they had been joined by commodore Barney and the men from his flotilla. Rear-admiral Cockburn, having left Pig-point on the morning of the 23rd, crossed over with the ships' marines and the divisions of seamen to Mount Calvert, and proceeded by land to the british encampment at Upper Marlborough. The complete success that had attended the expedition thus far, determined major-general Ross to make an immediate attempt upon the city of Washington, distant about sixteen miles.

Early in the morning of the 23rd, the army moved forward in three brigades; the light consisting of the 85th regiment, the light companies of the 4th, 44th, and of the royal marines, a detachment of guns and rockets under lieutenant John Lawrence with part of the marine artillery: the whole commanded by colonel Thornton. The right brigade was composed of the 4th and 44th regiments; and the left of the 21st fusiliers and second battalion of royal marines; and 200 seamen, under captain Wainwright, were attached to the field-guns. According to one account, the enemy's force amounted to 16,300 men; but an american writer, in giving the details of that army, states that, including 600 seamen, the whole force did not exceed 7600 men, supported by 23 pieces of artillery. At 11 h. 30 m. A.M.




the British arrived on the heights of Bladensburg, and found the american army drawn up in two lines upon a very commanding eminence, on the north side of the turnpike-road leading from Bladensburg to Washington.

The light brigade was exposed to a heavy fire in crossing the bridge, but the enemy immediately retired, and fled towards the capital, leaving 10 pieces of cannon and 120 prisoners in the hands of the British, whose loss amounted to one captain, 2 lieutenants, 5 serjeants, and 56 rank and file killed; 2 lieutenant-colonels, 1 major, 1 captain, 14 lieutenants, 2 ensigns, 10 serjeants, and 155 rank and file wounded. Total: 64 killed, and 185 men wounded. As soon as the troops were refreshed, the major-general moved forward the left brigade; and as the British entered the city, the american army quitted it on the opposite side. A little musketry from one of the houses in the town, which killed the general's horse, was the only resistance made by the enemy.

The capitol and the secretary of state's office were burnt, and the extensive rope-walks at some distance from the city were destroyed, as well as a quantity of small-arms and heavy ordnance; and the British also demolished the great bridge across the Potomac. According to the official estimate of the public property destroyed, it did not exceed the sum of £365,400 sterling: private property was invariably respected, and the conduct of the british troops on this occasion was so very exemplary, that it was favourably commented upon by the American press. The naval arsenal, with a vast quantity of stores, and a large frigate ready to be coppered, were set on fire and destroyed by the natives, to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy.

On the 25th the army left Washington by the way of Bladensburg, and on the 30th of August the whole force re-embarked.


During the operations of the army against the capital, the battalion of marines formed from the ships of the fleet, and commanded by captain Robyns, was actively employed on the



other bank of the river. Major-general Ross expressed his warm approbation of the enterprise in general orders, by "assuring the troops under his command of his thanks for their conduct in the brilliant action of the 24th."

On the 4th of September vice-admiral sir Alexander Cochrane ordered another third battalion to be formed, by taking three companies from the second and incorporating with them three companies of blacks, or rather, men of colour, who had abandoned their masters on the faith of the british proclamations. Major Lewis was appointed to the command, with the following staff: first-lieutenant J. J. Willes, adjutant; first-lieutenant Adamson, pay-master; and first-lieutenant Salmon, quarter-master. Those refugee slaves became excellent soldiers, temperate in their habits, and cheerfully yielding the most ready obedience to their superiors. Serjeant Hammond, for his zeal and able management in training these men previous to their being embodied in battalion, was promoted to the rank of second-lieutenant.

The next object of attack was the city of Baltimore, situated at the head of a narrow bay or inlet of the Petapsco river, distant from its confluence with the Chesapeake about 14 miles, and containing 50,000 inhabitants. It is nearly surrounded by hills, and the Clinkapin, situated on its eastern side, commands the city, and likewise the approach to it by land from the Chesapeake. On the river it is defended by the strong fortification of fort M'Henry, situated about two miles from the city, upon the point of the peninsula that forms the south side of the bay, which at its entrance is not more than a quarter of a mile in width. The success which had attended the operations of the invading army produced such a panic in the city of Baltimore, (which is only 35 miles from Washington,) that apprehensive of an attack in their rear by a march across the country, the inhabitants feared the worst results; but the delay on the part of the invaders stimulated the american general and commodores to exertion in strengthening the defences. Upon the hills to the



eastward and northward of the city, a chain of pallisadoed redoubts was constructed, connected by breast-works, with ditches in front, and well supplied with artillery; other works were thrown up, and guns mounted upon every spot capable of annoying an invading force, either by land or by water. The Java of 60 guns, and two corvettes of 22 guns each, were equipping in the port, in which there were also several gun-boats, mounting a long thirty-six pounder, besides a carronade. In addition to the army under general Winder that had retreated from Washington, volunteers were flocking in from Pennsylvania, and the seamen and marines from commodore Rodgers, and captains Perry and Porter, had just arrived from the banks of the Potomac.

On the 6th of September the Royal Oak 74, and the troop-ships, stood out of the Patuxent, and vice-admiral Cochrane, quitting his anchorage off Tangier island, proceeded with the remainder of the fleet up the bay to North-point, near the entrance of the Petapsco river. On the 10th and 11th the fleet anchored, and on the 12th the troops, with the marines from the fleet under captain John Robyns, and a brigade of 600 seamen under captain Crofton, were disembarked.

The whole force immediately advanced towards Baltimore, and on arriving at the enemy's advanced post, about three miles from the place of landing, where they had formed a line of intrenchment, the american dragoons and riflemen fled without firing a shot. Major-general Ross, accompanied by rear-admiral Cockburn, having advanced to reconnoitre with a small detachment, were attacked about 10 A.M. by a division of american riflemen, cavalry, and artillery, numbering about 350 men. A short skirmish ensued and the enemy fell back, most of them taking to the woods. Major-general Ross, in moving towards the main body to order up the light companies, received a musket-ball through the right arm into his breast, and fell mortally wounded; and the expiring general lay on the road unnoticed until the arrival of the light troops, who had moved up on hear-

ing the firing. The main body, now under command of colonel Brooke of the 44th, advanced two miles further, and about five from the city, when they came in sight of the american army, numbering about 4500 men, with a reserve of 8000 more, supported by batteries in all directions. As the British advanced to the attack, the enemy opened a fire of musketry from their whole line, as well as from the field-pieces, and then retreated to a wood in their rear. From this position they were quickly expelled, chiefly by the bayonet, leaving all their wounded and two of their guns in possession of the British. The loss sustained by the army amounted to 1 subaltern, 2 serjeants, and 35 rank and file killed; 7 captains, including captain Robyns of the marines, 4 subalterns, 11 serjeants, and 234 rank and file wounded. On the part of the navy, 1 lieutenant, 1 midshipman, and 30 seamen were wounded.

Early on the morning of the 13th, colonel Brooke, leaving a detachment at the meeting-house, (from which the enemy had been driven), to protect the wounded, moved forward the army; and at 10 A.M. occupied a favourable position about two miles to the eastward of Baltimore. From this point the strong defences of the city became visible, and arrangements were made, with the co-operation of the fleet, for storming the american entrenched camp during the ensuing night.

In their way up the Petapsco, several of the ships had taken the ground, and some did not get afloat again until the next day. On the 12th, at 9 P.M., the Meteor, Ætna, Terror, Volcano, and Devastation bombs, and the Erebus rocket-ship, took their positions where they could effectually act upon the enemy's fort and batteries, the frigates having previously arrived at their stations outside of them. On the 13th, at daylight, the bombardment commenced upon the forts M'Henry, the Star, and the water-batteries on both sides of the entrance, and the fire was replied to from all points. At 3 P.M. the bomb-vessels and the rocket-ship moved further in, and the latter, to give effect to her rockets, much nearer the shore than the other vessels. The

forts, which had discontinued their fire on account of the ships being out of range, recommenced a brisk cannonade, which, although persevered in for some hours, did no injury to the squadron.

During the night of the 13th a division of twenty boats was detached up the Ferry branch, to cause a diversion favourable to the intended assault upon the enemy's entrenched camp on the other side of the city: it rained heavily, and in the darkness of the night eleven of the boats pulled, by mistake, directly for the harbour; but the lights of the city fortunately discovered to them their error, in time to get back in safety to their ships. The remaining nine boats, under the command of captain sir Charles Napier, having passed up the Ferry branch to a considerable distance above fort M'Henry, opened a heavy discharge of rockets and shot upon the shore; and after drawing the attention of the enemy to that quarter, they returned to their respective ships without incurring a greater loss than one man, mortally wounded by the fire of fort M'Henry on their return.

In the evening of the 13th, after the boats had been ordered to make this diversion, vice-admiral Cochrane intimated to colonel Brooke, that as the entrance to Baltimore by sea was entirely obstructed by vessels sunk at the mouth of the harbour, defended inside by gun-boats, it was found impracticable to undertake a naval co-operation against the city and the enemy's camp. This circumstance, combined with the unfavourable state of the weather, (which greatly increased the difficulty in ascending the steep hill on which the camp was situated,) determined both commanders to relinquish further offensive operations against Baltimore. On the 14th, at 1 h. 30 m. A.M., the british troops commenced retiring, and halted at three miles distance. In the course of the evening they retired three miles further, where they encamped for the night, and the ships and bombs had also moved down the river. On the morning of the 15th the whole force reached North Point, and in the course of the

day the troops re-embarked, without having experienced the slightest molestation from the enemy during their slow retreat.

Since 7 A.M. on the 14th, the rocket-ship and bomb-vessels had been called off from their position before the batteries ; and notwithstanding this long-continued bombardment, sustained no greater loss than 4 men killed, and 24 wounded.

It is to be regretted that any plan of ulterior operations should have obtruded itself to check the progress of the attack, for there is little doubt that had the Severn, Euryalus, Havannah, and Hebrus been lightened sufficiently to have placed themselves close alongside fort M'Henry, it would soon have been reduced. The possession of that fortress would have enabled the British to silence the batteries on the opposite side of the bay ; and the city, together with the shipping in the harbour, would have been then at the mercy of the invaders.

The conduct of lieutenant Athelstan Stephens and his skirmishers during these operations, drew forth the commendation of his superiors, and he was honoured with the confidence of the officer commanding the force during the retreat.

On the 26th of September the command of the third battalion devolved upon captain Clements, in consequence of the severe illness of major Lewis, who was invalided. The battalion was encamped in the island of Tangier, and under the impression of passing the winter there, commenced building barracks for 600 men. This undertaking was accomplished by the most persevering industry ; for it became necessary to cut the timber in a neighbouring island, and the nails were made from the iron-work taken from stranded vessels on the shore. During these exertions the battalion suffered great privations, having bad water, a short allowance of provisions, and neither wine, spirits, nor medicine of any kind ; and dysentery prevailed to a great extent. But all those difficulties were borne with cheerfulness ; and by the zealous efforts of the officers, who relinquished part of their allowance to extend comfort to the men, every obstacle was overcome. The barracks were completed, with an hospital

for 50 men, fort Albion repaired, a parade and a battery constructed ; when an order arrived on the 11th of December for the marines to embark, and they immediately sailed for the coast of Georgia.

On the 10th of January the battalion disembarked on Cumberland island, having buried the surgeon and 69 men on the passage round. Here they were brigaded with the first and second battalions, and two companies of the 2nd west-india regiment, under the command of lieutenant-colonel Williams of the marines. On the 12th the brigade crossed the Sound from Cumberland island, and landing on the opposite side without resistance, moved forward by a narrow path through a wood, to attack the fort of Point Pitre, which commands the entrance to the river St. Mary. The garrison of the fort, consisting of part of the 1st regiment of united-states riflemen, having taken up a position in the woods, were driven back, and finally expelled from the fort itself. Leaving three companies at this place, the remainder of the brigade crossed another branch of the river, and entered the town of St. Mary's at midnight on the 13th. A remarkable incident occurred in passing through the wood : a serjeant of the american rifles, who had been severely wounded in the upper part of his left arm by a marine, was drawn aside and placed against a tree, where he was found by a private of the battalion (the son of a surgeon in Devonshire), following in the rear of the column, and carrying the surgeon's instruments in a knapsack on his back. This man, without much ceremony, and only assisted by a drummer, removed the serjeant's arm from the socket : the wound healed satisfactorily, and as there was a great scarcity of medical assistants, the commander-in-chief, on learning the circumstance, ordered the private to receive the pay of an assistant-surgeon.

Having compelled the inhabitants to destroy the works of defence, and embarked every thing valuable in vessels lying near the town, the brigade returned to Cumberland island ; and major Kinsman, who had arrived from England, took command

of the third battalion. Intelligence having reached that peace between Great Britain and America had been ratified at Washington, the battalion embarked on board their respective troopships on the 10th of March, and sailed for Bermuda, where they arrived and disembarked on Ireland island on the 21st.

During the interval that occurred between the period of the ratification of peace at Washington and its announcement at the scene of operations on the coast of Georgia, many slaves deserted from their masters; and on the faith of the proclamations issued by the british admiral, joined the battalions. This treaty was so artfully framed, that from the date of the ratification it established a claim to the restoration of all property, which of course included slaves; consequently, many of these unhappy men were given up to the american commissioners, after they had worn the british uniform. Although there were but few instances where this occurred, it was sufficient to cast a stigma upon the character of the british nation; and it would have been better to have paid treble their value, than submit to so disgraceful a transaction.

The three black companies of the third battalion obtained small grants of land, and proved good settlers in Trinidad: the three companies of Europeans arrived in England in the course of August 1815.

In the month of August 1814, major Edward Nicolls, with his detachment, as described in the early part of this narrative, arrived at Mobile at a time when the indian army had been defeated, and a force of 3000 men from the United States, under the command of general Andrew Jackson, was in possession of their country. His first object was to distribute arms and ammunition to the Indians; and to effect this, the major with his small detachment moved to Penascola, and thence threatening the enemy's forts on the banks of the Alabama, he drew off the american general. He then proceeded to arm the Indians, and soon placed them in such an imposing position, as to cause the government of the United States to send general Macintosh

with 2000 men (which had been intended as a reinforcement to their canadian army,) to watch the Indians, and the forts constructed on the Apalachicola by major Nicolls. At the same time general Jackson's force, having been increased to 5000 men, took post in Mobile, opposite to the small force under the major in Penascola, which he threatened to attack. To produce a new diversion, the British proceeded to attack Fort Bowyer, situated on Mobile point, so as to cut off the communication between New Orleans and Mobile, by which movement the enemy's forts on the Mobile, Cosa, and Alabama would be rendered useless : it would at the same time enable the assailants to subsist at the enemy's expense, and prevent them from attacking Penascola; which important service was performed by 60 marines, 12 marine artillery, and 180 Indians. This small and irregular force, co-operating with the 20-gun ships *Hermes* and *Charon*, and two sloops of war, who attacked the fort on the sea-side, compelled a detachment of the 2nd regiment of united-states infantry and some artillery, amounting to 300 men, under colonel Lawrence, to withdraw into Fort Bowyer, and on the same night they were closely invested by the british and indian battalion. Major Nicolls being so severely attacked by dysentery as to be compelled to resign his command, was conveyed on board the *Hermes* the day previous to the attack of the fort. Although much debilitated, that gallant officer was upon deck as soon as the ship got under fire : he was twice taken below, but returned to his post as soon as his wounds were dressed ; which were so severe as to deprive him of the sight of the right eye, and he also received some injury in one of his legs.

Sir Alexander Cochrane, in reporting the attack upon Baltimore, thus expresses himself:—"Captain Robyns, who commanded the marines of the squadron on this occasion, and in the operations against Washington, being severely wounded, I beg leave to recommend him to their lordships' recollection, as having been frequently noticed for his gallant conduct during the services on the Chesapeake, and to recommend him to their

lordships' favour and protection. First-lieutenant J. Lawrence of the royal marine artillery, who commanded the rocket-brigade, has again rendered essential service, and is highly spoken of by colonel Brooke."

When this service had terminated, major Nicolls with his battalion returned to Penascola, and by great exertion on his own part, and of the detachment under his command, prepared for its defence; but receiving information of the approach of sir Alexander Cochrane with a british force to attack New Orleans, the major considered it advisable to detain the american general at Penascola, and by that means enable the British to obtain easy possession of New Orleans. Accordingly that officer retreated from the place, and with such ability as to preserve all his stores, causing a loss to the enemy of 15 killed, some officers and many wounded; and this service was performed by 700 men, in the face of the american army of 5000 men, with five pieces of cannon. Falling back upon the river Apalachicola, the major, by constructing a fort in a strong position, secured his communication with the sea, and was thus enabled to send out small parties to distract and annoy the enemy on the Georgian frontiers, causing great loss to the United States, both of lives and property; and by cutting off their convoys, distressed the garrisons on the Mobile, Alabama, and Cosa rivers. Despite the strenuous endeavours of the Americans, that persevering and indefatigable officer retained his position until the close of the war; and had it not been for the treacherous conduct of persons in the island of Jamaica, who sent a schooner to Mobile to apprize the american general of the intended expedition to New Orleans, the British would have marched into that city without opposition.

Major Nicolls accompanied the expedition to New Orleans, and being senior major of all the services employed there, he urged his right to lead the marines in the intended general attack; but this honour was refused by sir Alexander Cochrane, on the grounds that, if any accident happened to him, he would

find it difficult to appoint an officer acquainted with the Indians. Major Adair, who led the battalion to the attack of the enemy's entrenchments, nobly won the decoration of the Bath. Captain Robyns, who succeeded to the command of the marines of the squadron, deservedly obtained the brevet rank of major for his services in commanding the battalion formed by the detachments from the ships in the attack upon Washington, Baltimore, and other places: yet there was neither honour nor promotion awarded to the senior officer of the corps on the station, who was employed on a difficult and arduous duty.

1816.

Bombardment of Algiers.

The frequent atrocities committed by the inhabitants of the Barbary States, determined the british government to take effectual measures for the suppression of those aggressions; and recent occurrences led to the immediate equipment of an expedition of suitable magnitude, to act against the forts and shipping of Algiers. The command of this armament was entrusted to admiral lord Exmouth, who had a short time before compelled the Bey of Tunis to sign a treaty for the abolition of Christian slavery, and to restore 1792 slaves to freedom.

A fleet, consisting of nineteen men-of-war, sailed from Plymouth at noon on the 28th of July, 1816, and arrived at Gibraltar on the 9th of August, where they were joined by a dutch squadron of five frigates and a corvette, under vice-admiral Cappellen.

The armament quitted the bay of Gibraltar on the 14th, and on the 16th the Prometheus sloop joined from Algiers. Captain Dashwood brought information that great preparations were making by the Dey to resist the meditated attack, and that in addition to 40,000 men marched down from the interior, all the Janissaries were called in from the distant garrisons. The fortifications of Algiers were of considerable strength: upon the various batteries on the north side of the city there were

about 80 pieces of cannon, and six or eight very large mortars ; but the shoalness of the water would scarcely admit a heavy ship to approach within reach of them. Between the north wall and the commencement of the pier, which is about 250 yards in length, and connects the town with the light-house, were about twenty guns. At the north projection of the mole stood a semi-circular battery of 44 guns, in two tiers ; and to the southward of that, and nearly in a line with the pier, was the round or light-house battery, mounting 48 guns in three tiers. Then came a long battery, also in three tiers, called the eastern battery, mounting 66 guns, flanked by four other batteries of two tiers, each mounting altogether 60 guns ; and on the south head of the mole were 2 large guns, represented to be sixty-eight pounders. So that the different batteries on the mole-head mounted above 220 guns, principally thirty-two and twenty-four, and none less than eighteen-pounders.

South-west of the small pier that projects from the city to form the entrance of the mole, and bearing at the distance of 300 yards due west from the south mole-head, was the fish-market battery of 15 guns, in three tiers : between that and the southern extremity of the place were two batteries, of 4 or 5 guns each. Beyond it, in this direction, was a castle and two or three other forts, mounting between them 70 guns. Besides all these batteries, which constituted the sea-defences of the port, there were various fortifications at the back of the city and on the heights ; we may therefore compute the number of guns mounted for the defence of Algiers to have exceeded 1000.

On the 16th, when the fleet had arrived within 200 miles of the place, the wind shifted to the eastward, and continued in that adverse quarter until the 24th, when it came round to the south-west. On the 27th, at day-break, the ships, as they lay becalmed, gained a sight of the city, and lord Exmouth took the opportunity of despatching lieutenant Samuel Burgess to demand of the Dey certain conditions, of which the following is the substance :—The abolition of Christian slavery : the de-

livery of all Christian slaves in the kingdom of Algiers: the repayment of all the money that had recently been exacted for the redemption of neapolitan and sardinian slaves: peace with the king of the Netherlands: and the immediate liberation of the british consul, with the two boats' crews of the *Prometheus*. The boat arriving abreast of the mole at 11 A.M., was met by one from the shore with the captain of the fort, to whom the demand was presented, and an answer was promised in two hours. In the mean time, a breeze having sprung up, the fleet stood into the bay, and lay to about a mile from the city until 2 P.M.; when lieutenant Burgess, having intimated that no answer had been returned, pulled out towards the fleet. The *Queen Charlotte* immediately asked, by signal, if all the ships were ready: in a moment every ship had the affirmative at her mast-head, as the fleet bore up to the attack in the prescribed order; and at 2 h. P.M. the *Queen Charlotte* anchored with springs about fifty yards from the mole-head. Two or three shot had been fired from the opposite end of the mole at the *Impregnable*, and ships near her, when lord Exmouth waved to the crowd assembled on the parapet of the mole; and as the greater part were in the act of leaping through embrasures, the *Queen Charlotte* opened her starboard broadside: the action instantly commenced, each ship taking a part in it as she brought her guns to bear. Next a-head of the *Queen Charlotte*, and upon her starboard bow, lay the *Leander*, with her after-guns on the starboard side bearing upon the mouth of the mole, and her foremost ones upon the fish-market battery: a-head of the *Leander* the *Severn* was placed, with the whole of her starboard guns directed at the same object; and close to the *Severn* was the *Glasgow*. At the distance of 250 yards, and rather on the starboard quarter of the *Queen Charlotte*, was the *Superb*, opposed to the 60-gun battery next to the mole-head. It was intended that the *Impregnable* and *Albion* should have taken their stations in succession next to the *Superb*; but not being sufficiently advanced when the firing com-

menaced, the Impregnable brought up considerably outside of the line of bearing, within which the attacking force had been ordered to assemble: the Impregnable consequently lay exposed, at the distance of 400 yards, to the light-house battery of three tiers, and to the eastern battery of two tiers. Observing the space between the Impregnable and her second a-head (the Superb), the Minden stood in, and took up a position about her own length astern of the latter. The Albion following, brought to close a-head of the Impregnable; but finding herself too near to the three-decker, she filled, and at about 3 p.m. came to again within her own length of the Minden; and the latter quickly passing her stream-cable out of the larboard gun-room-port, hove the two ships close together. In this way the eight heaviest ships of the fleet took up their stations: the Queen Charlotte, Superb, Minden, Albion, and Impregnable in a north-easterly direction from the mole-head, and the Leander, Severn, and Glasgow in a curved direction, to the south-west of the fish-market battery. The five dutch frigates anchored against the batteries to the southward of the city, their admiral being close astern of the Glasgow.

The Granicus and Hebrus, with the smaller vessels, except the bombs, had no particular station assigned to them, but were to place themselves abreast of any openings they could find in the line of battle. The Hebrus got becalmed, and was obliged to anchor a little without the line, on the Queen Charlotte's larboard-quarter. The Granicus hove to for the space of ten minutes, while her companions were taking their stations; then setting her fore-sail and top-gallant sails, she steered towards the ship of the commander-in-chief, and with great gallantry and skill captain Wise anchored his frigate in a space, scarcely exceeding her own length, between the Queen Charlotte and Superb.

The Heron, Britomart, Prometheus, and Cordelia sloops remained under way, and the Mutine anchored on the larboard bow of the Impregnable. The four bombs were soon in their

stations, about 2000 yards from the enemy's works, and the battering flotilla under captain F. T. Michell, consisting of gun and mortar-boats, and various kinds of ships'-boats, amounting together to above fifty, began their destructive fire.

The precision of the Queen Charlotte's fire was such, that her third broadside levelled the south end of the mole to its foundation. She then sprang her starboard broadside upon the batteries over the town-gate leading into the mole, and soon demolished that work also.

About 3 P.M. lieutenant J. H. Stevens of the marine artillery was detached from the Queen Charlotte, in a boat mounting a 68-pounder carronade, and, lashed to a stern warp from the Leander, was employed in firing carcasses at the dismantled frigates and vessels in the mole. Towards 4 P.M. the Leander, by order of the admiral, ceased firing, to allow the barge of the Queen Charlotte to set fire to the Algerine frigate, moored across the mole at the distance of about 100 yards from the british ship. The officers embarked on this service were lieutenant Peter Richards, major Gossett of the engineers, lieutenant of marines Ambrose A. R. Wolrige, and midshipman H. M'Clintock. In about ten minutes the barge returned, having fully succeeded in this gallant enterprise, with the loss of only two men killed. The blaze was in a manner electrical: lord Exmouth testified his approbation by telegraphing to the fleet "Infallible"; and the Queen Charlotte, at 4 h. 15 m., shifted her berth to make way for the burning mass to pass clear of her. At 4 h. 30 m. rear-admiral Milne sent a message to lord Exmouth, stating that as the Impregnable had sustained a loss of 150 in killed or wounded, (including a third of that number from the bursting of a shell thrown by the enemy,) he requested that a frigate might be sent to divert some of the fire from the ship. The Glasgow was ordered upon that service; but from the calm state of the weather, after being under way nearly three quarters of an hour, she was only enabled to place herself a short distance a-head of the Severn, with her stern towards

that ship, and she became exposed to a severe raking fire from the fish-market and contiguous batteries. By 7 P.M. the incessant and well-directed fire of the mortar, gun, and rocket-boats, all the ships and vessels within the harbour were in flames. The arsenal, store-houses, and part of the city also, were set on fire by the shells from the bomb-vessels. About 8 h. 30 m. P.M. the explosion-vessel, under the direction of captain H. B. Powell, was run on shore under the semi-circular battery to the northward of the light-house, and at 9 P.M. she exploded; and having been charged with 143 barrels of powder, it operated successfully as a diversion in favour of the Impregnable.

The squadron kept up an incessant cannonade until about 10 P.M., by which time the upper tiers of the batteries on the mole were reduced to a state of dilapidation, the lower tiers partly silenced, and the ammunition of the attacking ships nearly expended. The Queen Charlotte, cutting her cables, stood out with a light air of wind, which had, fortunately for the British, sprung up from the land; the remaining ships also made sail, and before 2 A.M. on the 28th every british and dutch ship had got beyond the reach of shot or shell. The algerine fleet and store-houses, illuminating by their blaze the whole bay, greatly assisted the squadron in taking up their anchorage; and as if to add to the awful grandeur of the scene, the elements seemed to begin their war when the strife had terminated below: for nearly three hours the lightning and thunder was incessant, and the rain poured in torrents.

British squadron, showing the number of killed and wounded, with the names of the officers of the marines serving on board the respective ships:—

Queen Charlotte, 100 guns, admiral lord Exmouth, G. C. B., captain James Brisbane, C. B., 8 killed, 131 wounded. Captains J. Wright, Charles F. Burton, *ma. art.* (wounded), lieutenant Patrick Robertson (wounded), second-lieu-

tenants Harry Hunt, R. C. Holland, A. A. R. Wolrige,
ma. art., J. H. Stevens, *ma. art.*

Impregnable, 98 guns, rear-admiral David Milne, captain Edward Brace, C.B., 50 killed, 160 wounded. Captain William Collins, lieutenant Richard Farmar, second-lieutenants William White, Richard Bunce.

Superb, 74 guns, captain Charles Ekins, 8 killed, 84 wounded. Brevet-major Joseph Vallack, lieutenant John Norris, second-lieutenant James Clarke.

Minden, 74 guns, captain W. Paterson, 7 killed, 37 wounded. Captain John Ridley, lieutenant George Thomas Welchman (wounded), lieutenant Henry Foord.

Albion, 74 guns, captain John Coode, 3 killed, 15 wounded. Captain A. Gillespie, lieutenants Jonathan Barron, Thomas R. Morris.

Leander, 50 guns, captain Edward Chetham, C.B., 17 killed, 118 wounded. Captain James Wilson (killed), second-lieutenant George Baxter (killed).

Severn, 40 guns, captain hon. F. W. Aylmer, 3 killed, 34 wounded. Lieutenant John Humby, second-lieutenant Samuel Garmston.

Glasgow, 40 guns, captain hon. A. Maitland, 10 killed, 37 wounded. Lieutenants Athelstan Stephens (wounded), Duncan M'Nicol.

Granicus, 36 guns, captain W. F. Wise, 16 killed, 42 wounded. Lieutenant W. M. Morgan (killed), second-lieutenant W. Remfry (killed).

Hebrus, 36 guns, captain Edmund Palmer, 4 killed, 15 wounded. Lieutenant Thomas Dymock, second-lieutenant James Fynmore.

Beelzebub, bomb, captain W. Kempthorne, lieutenant Robert Henry, *ma. art.*

Fury, bomb, captain C. R. Moorsom, lieutenant John Maule, *ma. art.*

Hecla, bomb, captain W. Popham. Lieutenant F. James, *ma. art.*

Infernal, bomb, captain hon. G. Perceval, 2 killed, 17 wounded.

Lieutenant James P. Bissett, *ma. art.* (killed).

Total,—128 killed, and 690 wounded.


Brigs : Heron, Mutine, Britomart, Cordelia, and Jasper.

At daylight on the 28th, lord Exmouth sent a flag of truce with a note to the Dey, repeating the demands of the preceding forenoon, and the bombs were ordered to resume their positions, preparatory to a renewal of hostilities in case of a non-compliance ; but in the afternoon the captain of the port, accompanied by the swedish consul, came off to acquaint the british admiral that all his terms would be agreed to.

On the 29th, after several conferences, it was agreed that upwards of 1200 Christian slaves should be delivered up to the British ; 382,500 dollars restored, for slaves redeemed by Naples and Sicily ; peace with the king of the Netherlands ; the payment of 30,000 dollars to the british consul for the destruction of his effects, and a public apology to him before the ministers and officers of the palace.

Lord Exmouth was created a viscount ; and promotion and honours were abundantly bestowed on the officers of the squadron. Major Joseph Vallack of the marines was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and captains John Wright and Charles F. Burton obtained the rank of major.

Deserving as these officers undoubtedly were of the rewards conferred upon them, we cannot but feel surprised that another gallant officer was not included in the recommendation of the commander-in-chief. Lieutenant Ambrose A. R. Wolrige of the royal marine artillery, serving on board the Queen Charlotte, first suggested to lord Exmouth the destruction of the Algerine frigate and other vessels lying in the mole ; nor was it until that officer was prepared to proceed on the service, that lieutenant Richards of the navy and major Gossett of the engineers were directed to accompany him. The object was successfully effected ; and lord Exmouth, to testify his admiration of



the exploit, immediately telegraphed to the fleet "Infallible." It is therefore unaccountable that the projector of this dashing enterprise, who also carried the measure into execution, should not be among those particularly noticed in the admiral's official report of the battle. Lieutenant Richards and major Gossett both obtained promotion, but lieutenant Wolrige was not even mentioned by the commander-in-chief!

On the 23rd of May, at 11 h. 30 m. P.M., the boats of the 38-gun frigate Naiad, captain the hon. R. C. Spencer, were detached under the orders of lieutenant Quin, assisted by several officers, including lieutenant William S. Knapman of the royal marines, to attack an algerine brig of 16 guns, moored head and stern, in addition to a chain cable, fast to the shore, in a bight within eighty feet of the fortress of Bona, mounting above forty pieces of cannon, some flanking her on either side, and none more distant than canister range; and among them were the 16 guns from the brig, which the enemy conceived, by being placed there, would effectually prevent any attempt to board her, leaving the vessel so lightened, as to occasion the greatest difficulty in ascending her sides. All these obstacles, and a tremendous fire of cannon and musketry opened upon the boats, did not prevent the British from gaining possession of the brig; nor did they quit her until she was in a complete blaze, in all parts, which terminated in her partially blowing up; and then sinking in such a depth, that not a particle of her was to be seen, her masts having fallen in the flames. A few men hurt by severe contusions, was the only loss sustained in this gallant exploit.

1826.

On the 17th of June the 36-gun frigate Sybille, captain G. R. Pechell, arrived off the island of Candia in search of some piratical vessels that had plundered a Sardinian merchant-ship, and ill treated the crew. Being close in with Gozo, on the morning of the 18th four large misticos were discovered and chased under a small island, forming the bay or harbour of Porto Bono,


or Calos-limnonos. The frigate anchored at about half-past noon, with a spring on the cable, and opened her broadside on the misticos lying moored to the rocks, whilst the five boats under the orders of lieutenant Gordon, assisted among other officers by lieutenant of marines J. T. Brown, pulled in to the attack. They were instantly assailed by a destructive fire of musketry from above 200 men, protected by a stone breast-work or concealed behind the rocks. Their pieces, loaded with three balls each, connected by a piece of wire, were so well directed, that although lieutenant Gordon succeeded in boarding one of the vessels, the crew of the barge suffered so severely that he was compelled to abandon her, having 7 seamen and 1 marine killed; himself, Mr. Edmonsons, midshipman, and every other seaman and marine wounded.

Lieutenant E. Tupper, commanding the launch, was mortally wounded. In the first cutter, commanded by lieutenant P. T. Brown of the marines, Mr. Lees, midshipman, was severely wounded, 2 seamen killed and 2 wounded; the other boats suffered proportionably, and the total loss amounted to Mr. Knox, midshipman, 10 seamen, and 3 marines killed; 2 lieutenants, 2 midshipmen, 20 seamen, and 6 marines wounded.

Total, killed and died of wounds, 18; severely wounded, 26; 46 killed and wounded.

Presentation of new Colours to the Chatham Division of Royal Marines, on the 26th of September, 1827.

His royal highness the duke of Clarence, on arriving on the ground was received, as lord high admiral, with a salute of 19 guns from the brigade of royal marine artillery, and a general salute from the troops, consisting of a troop of dragoons, two battalions of the line, and the battalion of royal marines drawn



up in the centre. The marines then formed three sides of a square, and other troops closed on the right and left; when his royal highness, with an assemblage of beauty and fashion, came into the centre of the square. The royal duke then spoke to the following effect:—

He stood before them, he said, that day by the command of our gracious sovereign, to present them a new pair of colours. In so doing, he felt peculiar and very great happiness, both in his station of lord high admiral and as a general of marines. He had been intimate with the corps of royal marines now for a period of nearly forty-nine years, and had been, he might almost say, born and bred amongst them. The feelings he therefore must have, at being made the instrument of the royal approbation of their heroic, glorious, and victorious conduct, he left for them to imagine, for he could not express them. Having briefly adverted to several engagements, general and otherwise, in which the marine corps had distinguished themselves, whether acting conjointly with seamen, or others of his Majesty's land forces, in all of which they had displayed the same determined courage and resolute bravery, his royal highness alluded to the wars of succession in the reign of queen Anne, during which they had, by their exertions, contributed to the establishment of his (the duke of Clarence's) family on the throne of these realms. For these great and glorious services he felt a particular gratitude to them,—a gratitude in which he felt confident he might say the people of this country participated.

His royal highness then mentioned their conduct in several engagements against the French, whom he called the natural enemies of this country; and during the period of the american war, particularly at Lexington and Bunker's hill; in the latter, two battalions of marines were engaged, and the fire was so hot, that a regiment of the line, leading the advance to storm the american lines had given way, and allowed the marines to take the front, which they did most gloriously. His royal highness

enumerated their several exploits in India and during the late wars, and concluded by adverting to their last achievement at Algiers. Throughout this entire series of engagements they had proved not less injurious, by their gallant services, to the enemies of Great Britain, than advantageous to the country they had so heroically served."

His royal highness then ordered the new banners to be unfurled, and directing the attention of the corps to the devices on them, gave a description of them as follows :—

"During the last reign, emblems were unknown in this country on the colours borne by our regiments. The nations of the continent, however, were in the habit of using them, and his Majesty thought the example might be wisely followed in this country. He had therefore taken this opportunity of presenting the royal marines with a device, which their achievements had entitled them to. His Majesty has selected for you (the royal marines) the badge which I this day, by his permission, present to you,—a badge which you have hardly and honourably earned. From the difficulty of selecting any number of places to inscribe on these standards, your sovereign has been pleased to give them 'the great Globe itself,' as their properest and most distinctive badge. He also directed that his own name (George IV.) be added to that peculiar emblem (the anchor) which is your distinctive bearing, in order that it might be known hereafter that George the Fourth had conferred on you the honourable and well-earned badge this day presented to you. The motto, peculiarly your own (*per Mare, per Terram*), has been allowed to remain; and surmounting the entire is the word 'Gibraltar,' in commemoration of the important national services you have performed there. And now," concluded his royal highness, "in presenting these colours, the gift of your sovereign, into your hands, I trust—I am confident, you will defend them with the same intrepidity, loyalty, and regard for the interests of the country, that have marked the preservation of your old ones ;

and if you do, your sovereign and your country will have equal reason to be satisfied."

The colours were then presented to the two senior second-lieutenants, Guy Parsons and Jervis. The former is the survivor of five brothers who fought and bled in defence of their country, and in consequence of these claims the late duke of York promised to promote lieutenant Parsons to a commission in the line, and the lord high admiral allowed him to retire on full-pay expressly for that purpose; but the lamented death of his royal highness prevented the accomplishment of that gracious intention.

MEMORANDUM.


" Chatham, September 26th, 1827.

" His royal highness the lord high admiral desires to signify to colonel Savage, and the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the Chatham division of royal marines, the satisfaction which his royal highness feels, equally as lord high admiral and as general of marines, in personally having obtained for the corps the honourable and distinguished marks of his Majesty's gracious consideration, which they have this morning received.

" Conversant as his royal highness is with their meritorious course of past services, and sensible of their present efficient state of discipline and good order, his royal highness is further gratified by being enabled to express his confident belief, that their future conduct will in no way tarnish the lustre of their past career; and that the same high discipline, undaunted courage, and unshaken loyalty will be displayed under their new colours, as, under their former ones, they so eminently maintained.

WILLIAM."

Both colours were emblazoned with the device commemorating the distinguished services of the marines, according to the



custom in the british army at that period ; but the regulation issued from the Horse Guards in January 1844, discontinued the practice of placing any regimental record or device upon the " royal colour," more than the number of the regiment, surmounted by the imperial crown.

It is much to be regretted that the colours worn by the several battalions of marines, whose gallant services reflect so much honour upon the corps, should ever have been removed from their proper guardians, — the divisional head-quarters, to a remote part of the cupola of the painted-hall in Greenwich hospital, where they are indiscriminately affixed, without any indication of their glorious career.

CHAPTER VIII.

FROM THE YEAR 1827 TO 1837.

Battle of Navarino.

SINCE the memorable victory of Algiers on the 27th of August, 1816, no event occurred to disturb the peace of Europe until the period of 1827, and then the interference of Great Britain arose from the same noble motive,—that of affording protection to the feeble against the tyrannous cruelty of their oppressors, in which glorious effort she was assisted by the cordial co-operation of France and Russia.

It will be recollected, that after the massacre at Scio, when sir James Mackintosh, on the 15th of July, 1822, called the attention of the british Parliament to the state of Greece, it was considered inexpedient to recognise their cause, although individual aid was afforded, not only by England, but by other nations. The determination of Ibrahim to desolate the Morea, called for the interference of the british government, who declared its determination to resist to the uttermost those outrages, which were alike opposed to humanity and to the usages of all the European nations.

On the 4th of April, 1826, a protocol was signed at St. Petersburg between Great Britain and Russia, in which the two powers agreed to unite in bringing about the arrangements solicited by the Greeks to govern themselves, on condition of paying a yearly tribute to the Porte. While preparations were making to carry this object into effect, the state of affairs in that unhappy country became more appalling. At Athens the most revolting scenes

took place; and in May 1827 the greek army, after a dreadful slaughter under the Acropolis, was compelled to capitulate to the Turks.

As the Porte refused to accept any mediation, nor change its policy towards Greece, a treaty was entered into on the 6th of July between England, France, and Russia, pledging themselves to persevere in their endeavours to bring about a conciliatory arrangement. To enforce these measures, squadrons from the three powers assembled along the coast of the Morea; and on the 25th of August an armistice was accepted by the Greeks, but Ibrahim still continued his career of cruelty.

The admirals repeated their determination to resist the aggressions of the Turks, and impressed upon the Pacha, that as the Greeks had already accepted the armistice, it rendered all hostile measures against them most wanton and uncalled for. Ibrahim replied, that as the orders he had received from the Porte did not provide for the extraordinary case which now presented itself, he would send to Constantinople and to Egypt; and until the messenger's return, he pledged himself to desist from hostilities, and that the fleet should not quit Navarino. Upon the faith of this assurance the greater part of the ships were withdrawn from before the port, leaving the *Armide* and *Dartmouth* to watch their movements; but scarcely had the *Asia* anchored at Zante, when the *Dartmouth* hove in sight, with the signal flying that the Turks had put to sea. The *Armide* conveyed the same information, and having overtaken the french admiral before he had reached Milo, both squadrons immediately directed their course towards the ottoman fleet. Sir Edward Codrington soon fell in with them, having only one ship of the line, a frigate, and two corvettes; yet on his firm remonstrance the turkish fleet, consisting of seven large frigates, nine corvettes, two brigs, and nineteen transports, immediately turned back. On their return, they were joined by six egyptian frigates and eight brigs, and the whole of this armament was escorted into Navarino, where it arrived on the 4th of October.

Vessels were despatched to order the immediate assemblage of the allied squadrons; and by great exertions the combined fleets were united before Navarino by the 15th.

It was proposed to continue the blockade of Navarino through the winter, but this was rejected as being difficult and expensive; and in the event of the squadron's being dispersed by a storm, Ibrahim would be left free to carry his destroying army to different points of the Morea and the islands.

With these considerations, it was resolved to take up a position with the allied force in Navarino, and on the evening of the 19th of October the following instructions were sent by vice-admiral Codrington to the officers commanding the french and russian squadrons:—"The egyptian vessels, in which the french officers are embarked, are those in the south-easterly point of the port: I desire that his excellency rear-admiral De Rigny will place his squadron abreast of them. The ship next to them, bearing the admiral's flag at the main, I propose selecting for the Asia's opponent, and the Genoa and Albion astern and near the Asia. I desire his excellency the count Heiden will cast anchor astern of the english ships; the russian frigates will then be able to occupy the attention of the turkish vessels near and astern of the russian ships of the line. The british frigates will form a line before those of the Turks, which may happen to be in the west part of the harbour athwart the british ships of the line; and the french frigates will place themselves in similar positions with such turkish frigates as may be opposed to the french ships of the line. If there should be time before hostilities are commenced, the ships are to be moored with springs on their cables. Not a shot is to be fired by the combined fleet until the signal is made to that effect; but should they be fired upon by a turkish vessel, the fire is to be returned. The corvettes and brigs are placed under the orders of the captain of the Dartmouth, in order to keep the fire-vessels in check, and continue them in such position that they can by no means disturb the combined fleet. Should an engagement take place, in the

midst of the confusion which is calculated to arise in such a case, every one will remember the words of Nelson, 'No captain can do wrong in placing his ship alongside that of the enemy.'"

Navarino is one of the finest harbours in Europe, in circumference about six miles, having a straight island across its entrance called Sphagia, or Sphacteria: the only navigable passage into the sea is at the southern extremity, about 600 yards in width. On the right hand side of this passage, on a bold promontory, stands the town of Navarino, near to which was the encampment of Ibrahim. On this eminence, as well as on the opposite shore, there were strong batteries in a perfect state of defence. At about 1 h. 30 m. P.M. on the 20th of October, the Asia made the signal to prepare for action, and the combined fleet, consisting of the following ships, stood for the harbour of Navarin:—

Asia, 80 guns, vice-admiral sir Edward Codrington, captain Edward Curzon, 19 killed, 57 wounded. Captain of marines George A. Bell (killed), lieutenants Thomas B. Gray, Thomas Fynmore, and H. F. Murton.

Genoa, 74 guns, commodore W. Bathurst, 26 killed, 33 wounded. Captain Thomas Moore (mortally wounded), first-lieutenant Stephen Giles, second-lieutenant John Miller.

Albion, 74 guns, captain J. A. Ommaney, 10 killed, 50 wounded. Captain C. J. Stevens (killed), second-lieutenants Thomas Hurdle and Alexander Anderson.

Dartmouth, 46 guns, captain T. Fellowes, 6 killed, 8 wounded. First-lieutenants Thomas Scott and Charles Scott.

Glasgow, 50 guns, captain hon. J. A. Maude, 2 wounded. Captain Thomas Seward, first-lieutenant John Norris.

Cambrian, 48 guns, captain G. W. Hamilton, 1 killed, 1 wounded. Lieutenants Philip Sturgeon (killed), and A. B. Stransham.

Talbot, 28 guns, captain hon. F. Spencer, 6 killed, 17 wounded. Lieutenant John Husband.

Rose, 18 guns, captain L. Davies, 3 killed, 15 wounded.

Philomel, 10 guns, capt. viscount Ingestrie, 1 killed, 7 wounded.

Brisk, 10 guns, captain hon. W. Anson, 1 killed, 3 wounded.
 Musquito, 10 guns, captain G. B. Martin, 2 killed, 4 wounded.
 Hind cutter, lieutenant J. Robb.

FRENCH SQUADRON.

Trident 80 guns, Breslau 80 guns, Scipion 80 guns, Syrène
 60 guns, Armide 46 guns, and two brigs.

RUSSIAN.

Azoff 80 guns, Gargoutte 74 guns, Ezekiel 74 guns, Newsky
 74 guns, with four frigates.

RECAPITULATION.

British	...	75 killed	...	197 wounded.
French	...	43 "	...	144 "
Russian	...	59 "	...	139 "

Grand total,	177	480
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The turkish ships were moored in the form of a triple crescent, with springs on their cables, stretching from Fort Navarin along the low shore to the right, terminating under the southern point of the island of Sphacteria, and near the fort opposite Navarin. At the bottom of the harbour were numerous transports; and five fire-ships were stationed at the entrance, at the two extremities of the crescent. The turkish and egyptian force consisted of three ships of the line, six double-banked frigates, fifteen frigates, twenty-six corvettes, eleven brigs, and forty transports. Each of the line-of-battle ships was fitted with four guns on a side, of about ten-inch bore, for the purpose of throwing marble shot.

The principal force was assembled towards the right on entering, where four large frigates were moored; and next to these, two ships of the line, one of which bore the flag of the Capitan Pacha. Towards the latter the Asia bent her course, and brought up between the two, with a double-banked frigate and two corvettes astern. The Genoa following, anchored astern of her, and abreast of the double-banker of Tahir Pacha, and the Albion was on her way to her position next to her leader.

No sign of hostility had yet appeared, and all was quiet: not a sound was heard, except the dropping of an anchor or the rustling of the cable, as the ships took up their stations. The *Syrène* was placing herself abreast of a double-bank frigate a-head of the *Asia*, when the *Dartmouth*, who had just taken her position at the extremity of the line on the eastern side of the bay, perceiving some movements on board one of the fire-ships, sent a boat to request they would shift their berth, and quit the anchorage occupied by the allies. The *Dartmouth's* pinnace had scarcely got alongside, when the Turks opened a fire upon her, by which lieutenant George W. H. Fitzroy was killed, and several of the boat's crew killed and wounded. A fire of musketry was instantly opened from the *Dartmouth*, and also from the *Syrène* to cover the boat, which succeeded in regaining her ship. One of the turkish frigates having fired a shot at the *Syrène*, the whole of the allied ships, in a position to do so, opened their broadsides upon the turkish fleet. It was now about 2 h. 30 m. P.M.: the *Asia* was then lying between the ship of the Capitan Bey and that of Moharem Bey, but nearer to the latter; and as this ship did not fire at the *Asia*, the british admiral also refrained from hostilities. Sir Edward Codrington was so desirous to convey to Moharem his solicitude to avoid bloodshed, that he sent a boat with Mr. Peter Mitchell the pilot, who acted as interpreter, to assure the Bey of his amicable intentions; but as the pilot was coming down the side to return, he was shot by a Turk through a main-deck port. This treachery was instantly punished by a broadside from the *Asia*, and the action continued until both her opponents were driven from their stations, and drifted to leeward complete wrecks.

The action now became general: two fire-ships were soon in flames, and a third blew up; while a fourth was sunk by the *Philomel*. The forts on both sides the entrance joined in the cannonade, and that of Navarin did considerable execution. The *Asia* having disposed of her two immediate opponents, be-

came exposed to a severe raking fire from the ships of the second and third lines, by which her mizen-mast was shot away, several of her guns disabled, and many of her crew killed and wounded. Mr. W. Smith, the master, was killed early in the action; captain Bell of the marines also fell, and the admiral had a narrow escape, having had his watch knocked out of his pocket by a musket-ball.

The Genoa suffered most severely, and the loss sustained by the marines on the poop was so excessive, that it was considered prudent to remove the survivors to the quarter-deck. Captain Bathurst was wounded early in the action by a splinter, which lacerated his face; and he was at length mortally wounded by a grape-shot, which passed through his body.

The Albion being next astern of the Genoa, was exposed to the united fire of a cluster of ships, including one of 74 and two of 64 guns. About 3 h. 15 m. a turkish ship fell on board the Albion, and her crew made an attempt to board the british ship, but they were repulsed with heavy loss: the turkish ship was in turn boarded, and compelled to call for quarter. She was soon discovered to be on fire, and a short time after, having been cut adrift, blew up with a tremendous explosion. The removal of this opponent enabled the two remaining ships to open with more effect upon the Albion, but the largest of the two was shortly in flames. The Albion continued the action until dusk; then, taking advantage of the breeze off the land, she got under way, and stood clear of the numerous blazing ships around her.

The french ships behaved admirably; and the Armide was most conspicuous in proceeding to the assistance of the Talbot, who had taken a position exposed to the broadsides of three heavy frigates, with whom she had been engaged for more than a quarter of an hour, when captain Hugon gallantly placed the Armide between the Talbot and her formidable opponents. One of the frigates soon surrendered, and the noble-minded captain of the french frigate, on striking the turkish flag, hoisted in

its place the french and british flags united ; thereby intimating that he had terminated the contest, which his brave ally had begun. In the mean while the second frigate had surrendered, and was taken possession of by the Talbot.

Although the Russians arrived some time after the strife had commenced, they were powerfully instrumental in accomplishing the success of the battle ; and suffered severely from the forts on the island of Sphacteria, which were eventually silenced.

The scene of carnage and desolation was most appalling : as the turkish ships became disabled, they drifted out of the line and were set on fire by their crews ; and scarcely a quarter of an hour elapsed but a ship was blown into the air, or seen careening wildly about the bay in flames. Ibrahim had declared that " his ships might be destroyed, but would never be captured ;" and the events of this engagement have explained the import of that assertion. With the close of day the battle ceased, and with the exception of two ships of the line, two frigates, and some smaller vessels, the whole of that magnificent armament, which but a few hours past rode so proudly at their anchors, was either on shore, sunk, or in flames. The wind had died away, and in the calm night that ensued, a random shot fired at intervals from the forts rather added to the solemnity ; whilst the momentary burst of light from burning wrecks rendered this scene of desolation occasionally visible : it was one of awful grandeur which cannot be described.

Early on the morning of the 21st sir Edward Codrington sent a turkish captain on shore, with a letter expressive of his desire to refrain from further hostilities ; but should a single musket be fired at a boat or vessel of the allied powers, the remainder of the ottoman fleet would be destroyed. Tahir Pacha came on board the Asia, and in his interview with the commanders-in-chief, he acceded to the arrangements that had been proposed to him. It was now ascertained that Ibrahim was not present during the battle : at that moment he was engaged in persecuting the unhappy Greeks that fell into his hands.

It will be seen by the following letters, that a considerable promotion took place in the marines of the squadron, and that soon after the appointments had actually been notified, they were rescinded; consequently captain Seward was the only officer promoted after the death of captain Moore.

“ Admiralty, 13th November, 1827.

“ His royal highness the lord high admiral declares it to be his intention, that in future the vacancies of the royal marine corps occasioned by officers having been killed in action, shall be filled up by the promotion of the senior surviving officers present in the battle, provided their characters and conduct be unexceptionable, according to seniority.

“ And his royal highness therefore directs, that the vacancies occasioned by captains Bell and Stevens in the battle of the 20th of October, be filled up by the two senior first-lieutenants present in the battle, and their vacancies again by the two senior second-lieutenants present.”

“ Deputy Adjutant-general's Office, R. M.

“ I have further to inform you, that in consequence of the above orders of his royal highness, commissions will be laid before his Majesty, and transmitted to the commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean, promoting the two senior first-lieutenants to the rank of captains in the room of captains Bell and Stevens, also the two senior second-lieutenants to the rank of first. These commissions will be sent out blank, with directions to the admiral to insert the names of officers entitled to them: to be dated the 10th instant.

“ I have also further to inform you, his Majesty has been graciously pleased, at the recommendation of his royal highness, to confer the brevet rank of major on captain Thomas Moore, the senior captain in the action, to be inserted in public orders.

By command,

(Signed) J. WRIGHT,

*“ To Col. M^r Cleverty, &c.
Woolwich.”*

A.-A.-GENERAL.”

" 17th November, 1827.

SIR,

I am commanded by the deputy adjutant-general to direct you to return to this office immediately the order of the 14th of this month, relative to the promotion of officers at the battle of Navarino, &c., expunging the whole of the said order from the books of the division, excepting that part granting brevet rank to captain T. Moore.

By command,

" To Col. M'Clenerty, &c.
Woolwich."

J. WRIGHT,
A.-A.-GENERAL."

Whilst the Medina steam-vessel was stationed on the coast of Africa in the year 1831, a boat containing a midshipman, 9 seamen, and a marine was despatched on service; and on ascending a river, the crew became so mutinous, that the officer was under the necessity of using violent measures, and ran one of them through the body. This so exasperated the others, that they determined to throw the midshipman overboard, and were attempting to put their threat into execution; when the marine, named George Hyam or Higam, with great firmness stood between them, and declared he would shoot the first man who dared to lay his hand upon the officer, and bayonet the next who might venture to approach him. This determined act of courage so overawed the sailors, that they desisted in their murderous intention; and the midshipman, thus nobly supported, was enabled to maintain his authority, and rejoin his ship in safety.

1836.

Operations in aid of Isabella of Spain.

A battalion consisting of seven companies, each composed of 1 captain, 2 subalterns, 3 serjeants, 2 corporals, 1 drummer, and 74 privates, to which was attached a detachment of marine artillery, had assembled at Santander in the early part of May 1836, when major John Owen took the command; and having

moved to Bilboa on the 11th, embarked on the 17th on board the squadron commanded by lord John Hay, which conveyed them to Sebastian, where they landed and occupied quarters in that fortress.

On the 28th, at 5 h. 30 m. A. M., the battalion was ordered to support the third brigade of the british auxiliary legion in the general advance from the lines of St. Sebastian, and at six A. M. forded the Urimea, about 300 yards above the old bridge; and after taking up such positions as the advanced legion considered necessary, they eventually occupied one of the hills of the Ametza range.

On the 6th of June, at 3 A. M., the picquets of the legion in front of Ametza were driven in by the Carlists; and at 8 A. M. a considerable force, supported by two pieces of artillery, attacked the left of the position at the village of Alza, and also the post of Gabara on its right, and after a heavy and long-continued fire, some part of the spanish troops gave way; but the marines having moved forward to their support, the Spaniards rallied and again advanced. When the battalion arrived within reach of musketry, the three front companies deployed and commenced file firing. Shortly afterwards the enemy retreated, and the marines returned to their original post at Ametza. In this affair captain Garmston (severely), and two rank and file were wounded.

On the same morning that the battalion moved forward in support of the legion, lieutenant G. C. Langley landed with the detachment of marines from the *Castor*, and took possession of the eastern heights commanding the harbour of Passages; and about 300 yards in front of their position was a "Caserio," occupied by a picquet of the Saragossa regiments. On the 9th of June, while the detachment according to their usual custom was under arms a little after day-break, they were suddenly startled by some bugles sounding the advance, and a volley of musketry poured from all sides into the picquet-house in front. As it was evident, from the weak resistance made by the picquet,

the assailants would soon overcome them if not assisted, lieutenant Langley, with his party of about 40 men, sallied out from their works and charged the Carlists; who, probably under the impression of being attacked by a much larger force, retreated, leaving many dead around the picquet-house. Whilst gallantly leading his men to the charge, and having arrived in front of the house, lieutenant Langley was severely wounded by a musket-ball, which passed through his right thigh. The force attacking the picquet was about 400 men, with two battalions in reserve under the brow of the hill; and had the Carlists succeeded in their first attempt, it was their intention to have made a general attack on the english position, driven them from the heights, and compelled the men-of-war to evacuate the harbour.

Lieutenant Langley, for this important service, was presented by the Queen Regent, through sir De Lacey Evans, with the first class of the order of San Fernando, and he had the same honour conferred upon him a second time, for his general services on the north coast of Spain.

From the 6th of May to the 10th of July, the battalion had occupied the Ametzagana, during an unusually wet season, without beds or better shelter from the weather than the huts they had themselves constructed with green boughs of trees. At 7 P. M. they quitted this position for Passages, and having bivouacked for the night on the eastern heights, were joined early on the morning of the 11th by some regiments of the british auxiliary legion, and a battalion of chapelgories. At 4 P. M. the legion, accompanied by the marine battalion, moved along the crest of the Isquibel mountain, in the direction of Fuentarabia and Irun, whilst a strong force of the enemy made a parallel movement by the Lesso road on the opposite hills; at 8 A. M. halted at the monastery of Guadalupe, and shortly afterwards general Evans made a *reconnaissance en force* by sending down the 6th and 10th regiments of the legion, supported by the marines, to gain possession of the wooden bridge, over which the Carlists intended pushing reinforcements to the towns. The

legion was soon engaged with the enemy's skirmishers, and having driven them across the bridge, held it for some time, until their ammunition was nearly expended, and their colonel (Beatson) with some others wounded. Captains Powell and Pratt advanced with their companies to an embankment near the rivulet; and shortly afterwards the companies of captains Bury and Morgan were ordered to take post in a neighbouring convent that commanded the bridge: these companies, under the immediate direction of major Owen, held the enemy in check during the whole of the afternoon, until general Evans decided on withdrawing his force to the heights of Isquibel for the night.

During the day the companies of captains Steele and Hornbrook were moved to the left, in consequence of a threatened sortie from Puentarabia, and they were partially engaged with the enemy's skirmishers. Lieutenant Robert Wright (1) who had been detached with a subdivision to the left, was the means of saving an officer and detachment of lancers of the legion, who were not aware that the main body had retired. In this affair the battalion had 2 privates killed; second-lieutenant Lambrick, 1 serjeant, and 11 rank and file wounded. On the following day the marines returned to Passages.

On the 1st of October the picquets on the eastern heights, commanded by lieutenant Logan, in advance of captain Powell, were attacked at A. M.; but with the assistance of the guns of the fort, the enemy was speedily repulsed.

On the 10th of March, 1837, at 3 A. M., the battalion under lieutenant-colonel Owen marched from its quarters at Passages by the Herrera for Alza, where the british auxiliary legion and spanish troops were assembled, and formed in columns of attack. At 5 A. M. a feint was made on the towns of Lanzo and Rentirea by colonel Lezama of the spanish service, covered by the guns of St. Antonio,—a small redoubt thrown up by the marine battalion. At 5 h. 20 m. the 9th regiment british auxiliary legion carried the position of Ametzagana, that of the Gabara

being at the same time taken by the Princessa regiment, supported by the marine battalion. By the evening the whole of the lines were secured, the marine artillery having driven the enemy from their last hold on St. Marco by a well-directed and destructive fire of spherical case-shot.

On the 11th the battalion was in position on the right bank of the Urimea, in front of Loyola; and on the 12th, at 4 h. 30 m. P.M., crossed the Urimea over a pontoon-bridge to the village of Loyola, the picquets of the enemy having been driven out by a battalion of rifles. During the remainder of the evening, parties were employed loop-holing quarters and throwing up breast-works. On the evening of the 14th the battalion supported a forward movement to secure a better position, and a few prisoners were taken.

The picquets were withdrawn on the 15th, and the battalion having re-crossed the Urimea, took a direction towards Hernani, on the San Sebastian road. At 9 h. A.M. they halted at the windmill-battery on the Ayetle lines; and here they were prepared for some work being at hand, by a hint from the lieutenant-colonel "to keep locked up, to pay strict attention to the directions of their officers, and not to waste their ammunition by a careless fire." At 2 P.M. they arrived within the distance of 800 yards of the Venta of Oriamendi, which was strongly occupied by the enemy, who opened their battery on the column. At 4 P.M. the guns and howitzers of the marine artillery companies, protected by the battalion, were brought into play with much effect; and about 5 P.M. the enemy's right was turned by brigadier Chichester, and a cheer in front denoted the surrender of the Venta.

On the 16th, at 7 A.M., the battalion advanced to the plateau of the Oriamendi, situated about a mile and a half from Hernani, overlooking the town, and was there posted with the 5th spanish division under Jauraguay. At 8 h. 30 m. the 2nd light regiment pushed forward in extended order, over the ground in front of Santa Barbara heights, followed by the 6th

regiment of the british auxiliary legion, in column, whilst the 5th division and marine battalion held the plateau. At this time a heavy firing on the left denoted that part of the army was sharply engaged. At 11 A.M. some Carlist lancers were observed to sally from the town to attack the legion guns; but they were quickly dispersed by the lancers, who captured their colonel Montegul, and sent him up to colonel Owen for disposal.

At 11 h. 30 m. four battalions of the enemy moved round by the Santa-Barbara heights, and shortly made their appearance in a gorge, immediately in front of the marines. After a short rest, they threw forward a cloud of skirmishers, and drove back the 6th regiment of the legion and 2nd light spanish regiment in some disorder. Apprehensive that his position, together with the guns, were the point of attack, lieutenant-colonel Owen advanced his column and deployed five companies, which were moved forward and occupied a natural breast-work. The enemy first attacked their front, but finding the file-firing too hot for them, and their men dropping fast, they began to waver, although repeatedly cheered on by their officers. An attempt was then made to turn the right, but with as little success as the former attack; and their final essay, directed towards the San Sebastian road in rear of our position, was foiled by the arrangement of colonel Owen, who had placed a company inside the wall overlooking the valley. Thus repulsed, the enemy retired towards Hernani, and subsequently supported the attack on the left, which was becoming serious, as the queen's troops evinced a disposition to give way. At 2 P.M. the battalion was ordered to retire, to cover the San Sebastian road; and at 2 h. 30 m. halted in column, about 800 yards in rear of the Oriamendi. Some spanish troops, intermixed with those of the legion, appeared over the brow of the hill at 3 h. 20 m., moving in disorder, hotly pressed by the enemy; but the battalion having immediately deployed into line, the Carlists made no further attempt to advance: at this time, some hundreds of the

retreating army passed, refusing all entreaties to reform. At about 5 h. 40 m. P.M. the firing generally ceased; and lieutenant-colonel Owen, having seen the artillery safely passed into San Sebastian, retired the battalion towards the Herrera, but subsequently countermarched, and quartered the men for the night in the church of St. Francis, at San Sebastian.

The casualties of the battalion on this day amounted to one bombardier and 4 gunners of the artillery wounded; and of the battalion, 1 rank and file killed; lieutenant Watson, 3 serjeants, and 26 rank and file wounded.

Amongst the wounded, the old battalion dog "Dash" must not be forgotten: always foremost in the fight, he had already been hit severely on the 10th, and on this day, not being deterred from heading the column, he was again wounded in the leg. On the same evening, after a hard day's work, it was amusing to witness some of captain Bury's company performing the ceremony of knighting "Dash," for his gallantry in the field, with the drummer's sword, and investing him with a medal made from a carlist bullet, which with mock solemnity they suspended round his neck.

The french commissioner, count Senhilles, an old officer in the service of Napoléon, who remained with the battalion nearly the whole of the day, frequently expressed his admiration of the steadiness of the men and regularity of their movements, which he said had more the appearance of a review than a battle.

After the reverses of the 16th, lieutenant-general Evans issued a general order to his troops, dated the 21st of March, 1837, in which he thus alludes to the conduct of the marine battalion:—

"The unshaken firmness of the british royal marines under lieutenant-colonel Owen, in repulsing, as they did, four times their number, afforded you a noble example of the irresistible force of military organization and discipline, which the lieutenant-general feels confident, on future occasions, you will be proud to emulate."

On the 13th of May, at 5 A.M., the battalion, under major

Powell, crossed from Passages, and moved along the Hernani road to assist in the reconnoissance of that place, encamping for the night near Fort Poyo, close to the San Sebastian road. At 5 A.M. on the 14th, the troops having moved forward, some skirmishing took place in front; and being within range of a twenty-four pounder in the battery on the Oramiento, it opened a fire upon the marines, who had just halted in column. At this moment a loud and general cheer announced the arrival of lieutenant-colonel Owen, who, from ill-health, had for the first time been compelled to permit the battalion to march without him. That respected officer having resumed the command, the battalion returned to Passages at 4 P.M. on the 15th; and at 4 A.M. on the 16th, marched over the Isquibel mountain for Fuentarabia and Irun, in co-operation with the force under lieutenant-general Evans. The latter place was carried by assault on the 18th, and Fuentarabia having capitulated at 4 P.M. on the same day, the battalion returned to its old quarters at Passages in the evening, by the Lesso road.

On the 8th of September, at 3 A.M., the battalion passed over for the purpose of co-operating with the army of Espartero, and on the 9th Hernani surrendered. Having remained that night in the town, the battalion moved on the following morning on Urnietta; and having ascertained that the enemy had crossed the river by Andoin, the marines returned by Astigarara to Passages.

Lieutenant-colonel Owen having received the appointment of deputy adjutant-general of the royal marines, he resigned the command of the battalion on the 24th of November to lieutenant-colonel Parke, who remained in occupation of Passages and its outposts until the conclusion of the Carlist war in 1840, during which time the battalion received considerable reinforcements of officers and men.

Copy of a letter from general Harispe to lieutenant-general Evans, dated

" Head-quarters, Bayonne, March 21st, 1837.

" I have heard of the unfortunate result of the attack on Hernani with a feeling of the liveliest regret, which my deep sympathy with the cause you defend, and more particularly your own position, renders it difficult for me to convey to you in words.

" I have used my best exertions to set the public mind right upon an event, unfortunate no doubt, but which the hateful spirit of party and interested passions have turned to their own uses by exaggeration and calumny.

" You will accept, general, the expression of sympathy of an old soldier, who in the course of a long career has witnessed many a military vicissitude. A check may be quickly repaired, and I know that you are neither wanting in resolution, nor that valuable courage which ill fortune is unable to repress.

" Your own honour, as a soldier, has not suffered : this justice every one is obliged to render you. The honour of the british name is untarnished, and the noble conduct of the battalion of british marines sufficiently proves what may be expected from troops organized, long subjected to strict discipline, and accustomed to obey the voice of their leaders.

" I hope, then, that in a few days you will resume your operations. Above all, I hope you will not be left unsupported by those appointed to co-operate with you. I shall hail with satisfaction the success that awaits you, and with feelings of the warmest consideration, I am, &c.

(Signed) COUNT HARISPE."

Extract from a letter from an officer of the royal engineers, dated

" St. Sebastian, March 20th, 1837.

" Saw ten or twelve battalions file out and extend beyond our right and left ; from this time it began to look serious, and about 2 P.M., when the Carlists commenced their attack, symp-

toms of wavering were observed on our left, although they *were not pushed*. On the right they began also to grow troublesome, and lord John Hay considered it time for the marines to open their fire: they have hitherto done nothing. It was high time; and it would have done your heart good to have seen the manner in which they did their work. You must know the system of fighting here is regular guerilla—every man for himself,—firing as often as you can behind walls, &c.; in contrast to this it was beautiful to see the battalion throw in a regular fire, as steady as on parade, and colonel Owen just as cool as in the barrack-yard: it was the admiration of all who saw it, and soon quieted the Carlists. What a fine example of discipline the marines gave! Had they not acted as they did, our right would have been forced, and the army would have been cut to pieces. They certainly have added another laurel to their many.”

Copy of a letter from commodore lord John Hay:—

“ *H. M. Steam-ship Phoenix, Passages, March 18th, 1837.*

SIR,

I have very great satisfaction in bearing testimony to the well-merited praise which your letter of the 17th bestows on the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the Royal Marine battalion under your command, for their gallantry and exemplary conduct on the 16th instant. The service rendered to her catholic Majesty on that day by the royal marine battalion was of the most important nature, and could only have been effected by such gallantry, steadiness, and determination as the battalion displayed at the moment it was ordered to advance for the protection of the artillery.

A sense of public duty induces me thus publicly to express to yourself, the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates my admiration of their conduct; and I add, that since I have had the honour to guide the co-operation of his Majesty's naval forces on this coast, the zeal, judgment, and gallantry which

you have invariably carried my orders into effect, have been to me a source of confidence and satisfaction.

I am, &c. &c.,

(Signed)

JOHN HAY,

"Lieut.-colonel John Owen, K.H.,

COMMODORE."

commanding Royal Marine Battalion."

Copy of two letters from the earl of Minto to lord John Hay, dated

"Admiralty, March 18th, 1837.

SIR,

I feel much pleasure in acquainting you with his Majesty's gracious intention of conferring the brevet rank upon captain Powell of the royal marines. I am commanded at the same time to convey, through your lordship, to lieutenant-colonel Owen, the officers and soldiers of the royal marines attached to your squadron, the expression of his Majesty's marked approbation of the exemplary and good conduct and gallantry of that distinguished corps, in the arduous and necessary duty upon which they have been employed.

His Majesty was too well aware of the high character and merits of lieutenant-colonel Owen, not to have anticipated that the discipline and efficiency of the battalion under his command would prove such as it has been represented by your lordship, and that their conduct in the field would sustain the high reputation which that corps has so well established.

I have the honour to be, my lord,

your most obedient servant,

(Signed)

MINTO."

"Commodore the Right Hon. Lord John Hay, C.B.

&c. &c."

"Admiralty, April 10th, 1837.

MY LORD,

The advancement of colonel Wingrove to the rank of colonel-commandant having made a vacancy for a marine aide-de-camp to the king, I feel great satisfaction in communi-

cating his Majesty's selection of lieutenant-colonel Owen for that appointment.

In conferring upon lieutenant-colonel Owen this honourable distinction, his Majesty has desired me to mark his sense of the merit and services of that valuable officer,—never more conspicuously displayed than in the last action, when on the 16th of March the marine battalion so nobly maintained its position; and, with its characteristic steadiness and gallantry, it protected the retreat of the queen's army.

Your lordship will have the goodness to communicate this letter to lieutenant-colonel Owen.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.,

(Signed) MINTO."

"Commodore the Right Hon. Lord John Hay, C.B.,
 &c. &c."

Copy of a letter from commodore lord John Hay, dated

"H. M. Ship North Star, Passages, April 29th, 1837.

SIR,

I have the greatest satisfaction in acquainting you, that the lords commissioners of the Admiralty have desired me to express their high approbation of the gallantry, zeal, and judgment displayed by yourself, the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the Royal Marine battalion under your command, during the operations of her catholic Majesty's troops on the 15th and 16th ultimo.

I am, sir, &c. &c.,

(Signed) JOHN HAY."

"Lieut-colonel John Owen, K.H.,
 commanding Royal Marine Battalion."

Officers serving on the north coast of Spain in 1836 and 1837 :

Lieutenant-colonel Owen, K.H., commandant.

ARTILLERY COMPANIES.

Captain J. B. Castieau. First-lieutenants Hammet Parke,
 J. P. N. T. Clapperton. Second-lieutenant A. R. Savage.

BATTALION.

Captains,—Walter Powell, George B. Bury, Richard R. C. Steele, Richard L. Hornbrook, Thomas Stevens, Samuel Garmston, Charles Morgan, and Charles C. Pratt.

First-lieutenants,—S. Robert Wesley (adjutant), Edward Churchill, G. Logan, Alexander H. Stevens, Robert Wright (1), George Watson (quarter-master), and George Elliott.

Second-lieutenants,—George W. R. Yule, John H. Wright, Edward P. Snowe, George Lambrick, William B. Langford, Arthur Molesworth, Charles F. Hockin, and Robert Hockings.

Surgeon,—George Dobbs. Adjutant,—S. Robert Wesley. Quarter-master,—George Watson.

The decoration of the second class of the Spanish order of San Fernando was conferred on lieutenant-colonel Owen and major Powell, the other officers receiving that of the first class.

Flotilla on Lake Ontario, in 1837.

The continued aggressions on the Canadian frontier by parties from the borders of the United States, and their seizure of Navy island on the river Niagara, determined the british government to send out captain Sandom of the royal navy, to form a flotilla for the protection of the river-frontier on lake Ontario. That officer reached Kingston on the 18th of April, 1838, and on the arrival of the 74-gun ship Hastings at Quebec in the month of June, with lord Durham as governor-general, the following officers and men were permitted to volunteer from the squadron:—2 lieutenants, 8 mates, 1 assistant-surgeon, 83 petty officers and seamen, with 1 lieutenant of the royal marines, and 48 rank and file. This force arrived at Kingston on the 28th of June. Subsequently to the outbreak in 1828 it was increased to the establishment of a fourth-rate, having the complement of marines augmented to 1 captain, 2 subalterns, and 90 rank and file. A portion of this force was detached to lake Erie, and another party sent down the river St. Lawrence.


On the 11th of November information was received of the departure of a body of the Americans from the Onondago-lodge at Oswego, who, after proceeding down lake Ontario to Sackett's harbour in the steamer United States, received a reinforcement of two schooners full of men, which the steamer took in tow.

Captain Sandom immediately embarked lieutenant Johnstone and 44 rank and file of the 83rd regiment on board the Cobourg steamer, commanded by lieutenant Hooper, royal navy; and at 11 P.M. left for Sackett's harbour, to ascertain the movements of the enemy.

On the 12th, at 4 A. M., lieutenant Charles Allan Parker of the royal marines, with 40 rank and file, embarked on board the Queen Victoria hired steam-vessel, carrying the pendant of captain Sandom, and left for Gannanoqui, situate about 24 miles down the St. Lawrence, where they joined the Cobourg, when both steamers proceeded on to Prescott, which town is about 62 miles from Kingston, and situated at the head of the first rapids of the river. They arrived at midnight, and found lying there the Experiment, commanded by captain Newton Fowell, who had been severely engaged with the enemy on the 12th, in opposing a well-armed american force of about 800 men, commanded by a skilful officer, who in spite of the captain's gallant exertions to prevent them, succeeded in landing 300 men and three guns.

The position occupied by the insurgents consisted of a lofty and strongly-built windmill, situated on a point of land rising boldly from the river, having near it a few scattered houses. A wall was immediately raised round the door of the mill, with embrasures for their three guns; at the same time the doors and lower windows of the adjacent houses, which flanked the entrance to the mill, were walled up to secure them from attack.

At 5 A.M. on the 13th, lieutenant Johnstone of the 83rd regiment, with 44 rank and file, and lieutenant C. A. Parker of the marines with 30 rank and file, landed and were placed under the orders of colonel Young, K.H., who formed his small force



of about 300 infantry and 40 militia cavalry into two columns of attack,—lieutenant Johnstone's company leading the right, and lieutenant Parker's division the left wing. Lieutenant-colonel Gowan of the militia assisted colonel Young, and the left was under the direction of colonel Fraser, an officer who had commanded a company of the 92nd regiment in the peninsular war. The right wing was then directed to advance to the village of Johnstone, with its right resting on the river St. Lawrence; while the left wing made a detour inland, and then approached the village, with its left resting on the river, to cut off the retreat of the enemy.

The steamers, after landing the troops, proceeded down the stream, and commenced cannonading the village and windmill; but the shot, although well directed, had no effect on that building, notwithstanding the fire from the enemy's three guns did some damage to the Queen Victoria, bearing the pendant of captain Sandom.

Colonel Young having completed his arrangements, the two columns filed off,—the left wing passing over the hill, which extended about three quarters of a mile; and on its emerging from the wood the right wing, which had halted about 200 yards from the extreme right of the village, advanced and commenced the attack. The 83rd having extended, were met by a sharp fire from the enemy, who were behind a stone wall which flanked their position: but they were soon driven thence by the rapid advance of lieutenant Johnstone in an attempt to storm the mill, when that gallant officer was killed, and several of his men wounded, by the musketry from the Americans, who had retreated to a house commanding the object of attack. The British detachment now fell back, and halted under the protection of the wall they had just passed.

On the arrival of the left wing on the eminence inland of the enemy's position, about 150 of the Americans advanced towards them. Two parallel walls were in front of the British, and a third ran at right angles from them. The greater portion of

the enemy having filed under the shelter of the latter, lieutenant Parker with his detachment, and the first company of Glengarry light infantry, were ordered to attack this force; and at the same time colonel Fraser moved forward to turn the enemy's right. Arriving within musket-shot, lieutenant Parker wheeled his companies up into column, and the marines extended from their right. A smart firing was then kept up on both sides, until lieutenant Parker advanced rapidly towards the enemy, who fell back to the next parallel wall, still pursued by the British, until they took shelter in the village; from the houses of which they maintained a destructive discharge of musketry, wounding captain Macdonell, lieutenant Angus Macdonell of the Glengarry light infantry, and lieutenant Parker, with several of his men.

Having withdrawn from this exposed situation without making any impression upon the enemy, lieutenant Parker was directed to take command of the company of the 83rd, which had lost its gallant leader, and united to the marines, formed one division. The steamers continued battering the mill with little or no effect, until they had expended their ammunition, and colonel Young decided on withdrawing the whole force, after encircling the enemy's position with picquets, until the arrival of artillery from Kingston.

The loss sustained on this day amounted to 1 killed, an officer, and 14 wounded, of the marines; 4 killed, 2 officers and 7 wounded of the Glengarry light infantry. The enemy suffered in equal proportion, and 28 prisoners were taken.

Having placed picquets round the village, the detachments of marines and of the 83rd regiment embarked on board the steamers and proceeded to Kingston. In the mean time colonel Dundas, commandant of Kingston, having arrived, reconnoitred the enemy's position; and on the 6th a force, consisting of six companies of the 83rd regiment, a detachment of artillery, with an eighteen-pounder gun and a twenty-four pounder howitzer, the whole of the naval force at Kingston, including lieutenant

Parker of the royal marines, arrived in four steamers, having in tow two gun-boats armed with a long eighteen-pounder, and two with twelve-pounder carronades ; and at the same time the flank companies of the royal-regiment, and those of the 93rd regiment, marched from Montreal. With the exception of the light company of the 93rd, which had not arrived up, the whole force, accompanied by numerous militia, marched from Prescott to the village of Johnstone, under the command of lieutenant-colonel the honourable H. Dundas. The steamers, (on board of which lieutenant Parker and his detachment were embarked,) together with the gun-boats, having taken their position, under the direction of captain Sandom, R.N., a heavy fire was opened upon the mill, and the cannonade was continued for nearly two hours without producing much effect ; but on the bugles sounding for the troops to advance and storm the place, the enemy surrendered at discretion. The loss on this occasion consisted of captain Drummond of the militia, and one private of the 83rd killed, and several men wounded.

In the mean while the flames burst out from the surrounding houses, and rapidly extended until the whole village was consumed, leaving the mill without any visible impression, either from the bombardment or the conflagration around it. Lieutenant Parker and his detachment had the honour of receiving the approbation of the lords commissioners of the Admiralty, the thanks of the governor-general sir John Colburn, and of the lieutenant-governor of the upper province, sir George Arthur. As a further mark of their approbation, the local rank of captain in Canada was conferred on lieutenant Parker by the governor-general, and he was presented with an unattached commission, as captain in the militia force of Upper Canada, by the lieutenant-governor. A more substantial mark of favour from the lords of the Admiralty was also extended to lieutenant Parker, by his being appointed, unsolicited, quarter-master to the Chatham division of royal marines.

CHAPTER IX.

Operations on the Coast of Syria in 1840.

MEHEMET ALI, the pacha of Egypt, having virtually thrown off his allegiance to the Sublime Porte, by retaining possession of the egyptian fleet at Alexandria, the court of London, acting in conjunction with Austria, Russia, and Prussia, determined on taking active measures in support of the Sultan to reduce the Pacha to subjection. Although there was no positive interruption to the good understanding between the governments of France and England, yet it was strongly apprehended that the Pacha was acting under the influence of that nation; and it was therefore reasonable to suppose, that any reverse in the operations of the allies would have drawn down upon them the whole french force in the Mediterranean.

In the month of August the british fleet on this station, under the command of admiral sir Robert Stopford, consisted of fourteen ships of the line, three frigates, and several smaller vessels. Commodore Napier was lying at Beyrout, with five sail of the line, two frigates, two brigs, and two steam-vessels; and on the 9th the admiral arrived there with the remainder of the fleet, accompanied by three austrian, and five turkish men-of-war.

Hostilities were then determined upon, and in consequence of the ill health of colonel sir Charles Smith of the marines, who had been appointed to command the troops, the direction of the operations was intrusted to commodore Napier. During the night the marines of the fleet were ordered to embark on board the Gorgon, and about 5000 turkish troops were concentrated in the other steam-vessels. At dawn of day three steamers were

seen hanging off the cape, with every portion of their decks, and even their paddle-boxes, covered with a dense mass of soldiery. The fleet got under way, and formed a line extending from abreast of the town towards the cape, a distance of about a mile. At about 10 A.M. the Benbow anchored, and threw some shells with great precision on that part where it was presumed the greatest number of the enemy had assembled; and shortly afterwards several other ships also opened their fire. The operation had the desired effect of drawing the enemy to this point, in expectation that the disembarkation would immediately take place; and about noon, as the sea breeze set in, the signal was made from the flag-ship for the Castor, Pique, Dido, and Wasp "to follow commodore." At that moment, as preconcerted, the steamers crossed to the other extremity of the bay, (distant about ten miles), followed by the Powerful and some other ships; but before the Dido and Wasp arrived, a great portion of the troops had landed and formed on the beach. The Castor, with the Hydra steamer, proceeded more to the southward, and landed some turkish troops at the mouth of the Dog river, about two miles from Jouni bay, the spot of general disembarkation. The troops were for some time kept working night and day, throwing up sand-banks, felling trees, and other works, to strengthen their position, and having no shelter, they suffered much from exposure to the weather, whilst the detachment of royal artillery landed with every requisite for encampment.

The following are the officers of marines composing the brigade:—

Lieutenant-colonel William Walker.

Captains, R. C. Steele (artillery), C. Fegen, A. Morrison, C. Robinson, F. Spry, W. Jolliffe, W. Calamy, W. R. Searle, G. H. Palliser, H. Smith, and J. Childs.

Lieutenants, E. Appleton, J. Land, J. Buchanan, H. G. Mitford, J. K. Willson, J. Miller, S. Fraser, H. Parke (artillery), J. Phillips, R. M. Curry, B. Varlo, R. C. Spalding, W. W. Lillitrap, and T. B. Pleydell.

Second-lieutenants, A. D. L. Farrant, C. O. Hamley, Henry Varlo, W. R. Searle, H. A. M'Callum, C. Louis, R. K. Clavell, J. W. Wearing, R. Y. S. Moubray, R. M. Wemyss (artillery), L. W. R. Denman, C. W. Adair, W. Jolliffe, R. H. Harrison, H. W. Brooker, W. B. Mends, J. H. Stewart, and J. A. Stewart.

Acting brigade-major, captain W. Calamy.

Adjutants, lieutenants W. Land and J. K. Willson.

Quarter-master, lieutenant J. Buchanan.

On first landing at D'Jouni, the marines were formed into two battalions of eight companies ; but previous to the whole being formed on the beach, two detachments were ordered in advance, under the command respectively of captain Joseph Childs and lieutenant Berney Varlo. These parties moved to the southward,—the first crossing the Dog river, and the latter, accompanied by about 300 Turkish troops, to a convent on a hill about three or four miles from the camp, and forming the advanced posts of the british force. The battalions in camp were officered as follows :—

First battalion, lieutenant-colonel Walker, captain Morrison.

Second battalion, captains Fegen and Robinson.

These officers continued to do the duty of field-officers, changing battalions occasionally, as the nature of the service required, until captain Fegen with his detachment returned on board the Ganges, and the arrival of further reinforcement from England ; when the arrangement was necessarily altered as follows :—

Lieutenant-colonel Walker commanding ;—captains Whylock and Leonard commanding battalions, with captains Morrison and Robinson acting as majors.

The Carysfort and Dido were ordered to the northward to open a communication with the mountaineers at the town of Gebail ; but not meeting with a friendly reception, the Carysfort, after exchanging some firing with the castle, stood off shore to await further instructions. On the 12th September the Cyclops arrived with 220 marines from the camp at D'Jouni, and some armed peasantry, with orders to reduce the place ; and the

Carysfort, Dido, and Cyclops were anchored abreast of the castle and town.

On the passage from the camp, the marines had been formed into a small battalion of four companies, commanded respectively by captain Richard Searle, lieutenants Robert H. Harrison, W. R. Searle, and Charles W. Adair, with lieutenant Richard C. Spalding as acting adjutant: the whole under the command of captain Charles Robinson. Immediately after their arrival, the sea-face of the town and the coast adjacent was reconnoitred by captain Robinson, for the purpose of selecting the place best adapted for landing, when a bay to the southward of the castle was fixed upon for that purpose. All being in readiness, the troops were put into the boats, and at 1 P.M. the ships opened their fire on the castle, and those parts supposed to be occupied by the Albanians. The cannonade having continued above an hour, and apparently with good effect, the marines, accompanied by some mountaineers, pushed off from the Cyclops, and the ships, to cover their landing, reopened their fire. The space between the place of disembarkation and the castle, which was in part covered with mulberry and fig-trees, intersected by stone walls breast high, having been first scoured by the fire from the carronades of the launches, the landing was effected in perfect order; and after the cannonade from the ships had continued some time, the Carysfort made the signal for the troops to advance to the assault.

No opposition was experienced until the marines had arrived within thirty yards of the defences of the castle, when a most destructive fire was opened upon them from a crenelled work, having a deep ditch in its front, and which was completely masked from the ships. As the men were falling fast, from being exposed to a galling and well-directed fire through loopholes in excavated passages a little above the level of the ground, captain Robinson withdrew the battalion under cover, sending forward a serjeant with a section to ascertain the possibility of forcing an entrance, and carrying the place by assault;

but finding any further attempt on the fortress impracticable, the marines retired in excellent order, and after remaining nearly three hours on the beach, at the place of debarkation, were again on board before sunset; having suffered a loss of five men killed, a lieutenant, C. W. Adair, and sixteen men wounded. Captain Austen, of the *Cyclops*, with lieutenant Gifford of that ship and a gig's crew, accompanied the troops in this affair, and the latter officer was severely wounded.

The bombardment was resumed, and continued for four hours without making any visible impression, beyond the falling of the cupola of a mosque. In the course of the night the Arnaut troops evacuated the place, which was occupied at daylight by the mountaineers, who had been armed by the British. On examining the castle, it was found to be of such strength, that had the whole fleet been employed against it for the same time, the troops within might have remained secure. For many feet upwards the blocks of which the basement was composed were of the most astounding dimensions,—generally twenty feet in length and twelve feet in width, with excavated chambers capable of containing upwards of 500 men. On the side next the town was a deep and broad fosse.

Admiral Stopford, in transmitting an account of this affair to the Admiralty, observes, "That although the attack made upon the castle of Gebail by a party of marines under captain Robinson was repulsed, which I deeply regret, yet it was successful in its result, the castle having been evacuated on the following morning. The possession of that strong-hold is of the most material importance, as it commands the main road by which the enemy might advance upon our position from the northward, and secures a safe point for the mountaineers concentrating and receiving arms. Fully coinciding in the encomiums bestowed by captain Martin and captain Austen on the merit of the officers and men employed on this service, such as must always be conspicuous where danger calls them forth, I beg to recommend them to their lordships' favourable consideration."

Captain Robinson obtained the brevet rank of major on the 5th of November, 1840.

The battalion of marines and the turkish troops remained encamped at D'Jouni, under the orders of commodore Napier, whilst the admiral directed the bombardment of Beyrout. The firing continued until the 14th of September, when an alteration took place in the disposal of the squadron. The Edinburgh, Hastings, and Bellerophon only remained before the town. The Benbow, Pique, and Castor having received back part of their complement of marines, the former sailed to the northward with 1700 stand of arms for distribution ; whilst the other two ships were despatched in an opposite direction, and the rest of the squadron were brought down to the bay at Jouni.

The Benbow, having been joined by the Carysfort frigate and Zebra brig off Batroun, arrived at Tripoli on the 18th, and on the 20th anchored off the island of Ruad near Tortosa. As the latter place contained provisions and stores for the Pacha's troops, it was deemed advisable to attempt gaining possession of the town. Accordingly the ships proceeded thither, and the Carysfort and Zebra anchored within 500 yards of the shore. Having received information that the troops had evacuated the town, captain Stewart, after effecting a breach in the castle, directed the boats, containing 50 marines commanded by lieutenant Robert H. Harrison, and the whole under the direction of lieutenant William Maitland of the Benbow, to storm the place. The town presented at its sea-front a line of wall, flanked at either angle by a tower ; and this wall, in which the breach had been made, was not more than sixteen yards distant from the sea.

About 1 P. M. the enemy opened a sharp fire upon the cutter of the Benbow, as she landed on the beach ; and the four larger boats having unfortunately grounded on a ledge of rocks, became exposed to a destructive discharge of musketry from loopholes and crevices in the walls. A strong fire was returned from the boats, and several ineffectual attempts were made to wade to the shore. In the mean time the other cutter reached the beach,

and the two officers with their crews, after breaking open several stores entered a large cellar, which to their astonishment was filled with armed soldiers. A retreat was immediately effected, under cover of the well-directed fire of the ships. The loss in this affair was 2 seamen and 3 marines killed, 13 seamen and 4 marines wounded. Total, 5 killed and 17 wounded.

The *Castor* and *Pique* on leaving Beyrout on the 14th of September proceeded to Caiffa, and arrived off that place on the 16th, accompanied by the ottoman frigate *Dewan*. On the following morning two boats bearing flags of truce were sent in to summon the garrison, but they were not suffered to approach the shore. The ships immediately opened upon the batteries, mounting eight guns; but such was the effect of a few well-directed broadsides, that the troops deserted the town in great confusion. The forsaken ramparts were then taken possession of, the guns and stores destroyed, and 2 thirteen-inch mortars brought off.

On the following morning, the 18th, the *Castor* took up a position covering the road which leads into the town of Acre, distant about ten miles at the other extremity of the bay, a large body of troops being at the time distinctly seen drawn up at the distance of a mile from the Acre gate. It was then determined to dislodge the enemy from a castle, mounting five guns, in rear of and commanding the town, which was still held by the Egyptians. They were soon driven by the fire of the frigates; and as the destruction of the castle was considered desirable, captain Collier ordered the detachments of marines of both ships, under lieutenants Berney Varlo, C. O. Hamley, and R. Y. S. Moubray, together with a party of seamen under their respective officers, and the whole under the direction of lieutenant G. E. Patey of the *Castor*, to effect a landing for this purpose. Although in sight of the body of troops we have just mentioned, the British landed without opposition; and having thrown the guns over the ramparts and destroyed the fortifications, they returned to their ships.

From Caiffa, the *Castor* and *Pique* sailed on the 23rd for Tyre, in company with the turkish frigate *Dewan*; and on the 24th, about noon, they took up positions off Tyre, which was in possession of 500 egyptian troops, who were soon driven out by the fire of the frigates. On the following day the marines landed, and took possession of the town.

As it will be a matter of interest to understand the position of the encampment of the british force at D'Jouni, we have extracted the following description from the work of Mr. W. P. Hunter:—"When I had before seen the eminence on which the encampment had been constructed, it was but a pathless rock, covered with mulberry-trees, amongst which were discernible the few houses composing the village of Jouni. At one angle was a small chapel; at another, the almost covered ruin of an ancient terrace. Great was the metamorphosis which now presented itself: bristling ramparts extended around it in every direction, surmounted by nearly 100,000 sand-bags. It was approached from below by a broad path cut directly across the rock: it had its parade, and its hospital, tents, stables, and magazines; and, in short, every feature of a thoroughly-organized and strongly-fortified military position. From the chapel, which was occupied by the commodore, a six-pounder peeped from its only window, ranging an adjacent hill. On the raised terrace towards the sea, and elevated above the camp, had been placed a 5½-inch howitzer, protected with sand-bags. Within the principal lines were two inner lines, facing the western or weakest portion. Farther on the western side, adjoining the combined english and austrian divisions, were the turkish quarters; in front of the latter a field-work had also been thrown up, extending about ninety yards. The artillery in position consisted of nine english field-pieces, three 5½-inch howitzers, and six small turkish pieces. The camp was slightly commanded from the range of hills skirting it at distances of from 900 to 1500 yards; but the ascent to these heights would have been very difficult for heavy artillery, and they were at

the same time within long-range of the ships. The active force consisted of about 5000 Turks, 1500 marines, 200 Austrians, and a company of artillery, including sappers and miners."

The enemy having taken a position on the left of the Dog river, on which they had commenced throwing up fortifications, commodore Napier, at daylight on the 24th of September, marched out of the cantonments with four turkish battalions under Selim Pacha, the second battalion of royal marines under captain Fegen, and an austrian rocket detachment. The ground on either side of the Dog river is very high and precipitous, offering great advantages to the defending, and considerable danger to the attacking party. To secure against this, a turkish battalion descended, unseen, near the entrance of the gorge through which the rivers runs, and gained the heights on the other side; the marines and the rocket detachment, covered by this battalion, crossed higher up, crowned the heights, and advanced on the enemy, who were about two leagues off, while the Turks remained in position to cover their right, in the event of Soliman Pacha advancing from Beyrout to disturb these operations. The three turkish battalions who descended into the gorge before the marines, pushed their way up the river, and advanced in a mountain-path to turn the enemy's left; but on perceiving this attempt, the latter abandoned their entrenchments, and took up another position about a league to the right. The Turks followed them up with much vigour, and secured between 400 and 50 prisoners. The marines having advanced towards the eminence first occupied by the enemy, the work was entirely done by the Turks. "The marines," observes the commodore, "were however most anxious to try their strength, and I hope the opportunity will soon offer." This operation opened the whole district of Kala, and the mountaineers, who had been driven from their homes, flocked down in great numbers, and were immediately armed.

The allies having established a footing in the country, and by the strength acquired in their position gained a degree of

confidence that induced them to undertake some achievement of greater importance, it was determined to attempt the capture of Sidon by storm, and commodore Napier was appointed to command the forces to be employed. Accordingly, on the evening of the 26th of September, a turkish battalion under Homchild Aga, with the first battalion of marines under captain Arthur Morrison, embarked in the Gorgon and Cyclops steam-ships, and proceeded off Sidon. At daylight on the following morning the 84-gun ship Thunderer, 18-gun brig Wasp, austrian frigate Guerriera joined, as also the Stromboli steamer from England with 284 marines under captain Whylock, and the Hydra from Tyre, having on board the Ottoman rear-admiral, Walker Bey.

In order better to explain the proceedings, it may be desirable, to give a short description of Sidon. The town, which is built upon an eminence rising rather abruptly from the sea, is very circumscribed for the number of houses it contains, and the streets are narrow, numerous, and confused. It is enclosed on three sides within a wall of considerable height, but upon which the interior has so much encroached as to leave little or no intervening space. The principal gate in the line wall is towards the north side, near the sea, and is very well defended: on that side the town is approached by a broad and smooth beach. Towards the south, Sidon rises from the level country by a short but steep ascent, where there is a small citadel of no great strength. On the sea-front there is no wall; but the houses being built in a regular and compact order, offered equal obstruction to an enemy. The ruins of a mole also prevented any very near approach, and some entrenchments had been recently thrown up to oppose a landing. A castellated fort of considerable size projects at the same part about 100 feet into the sea, and is connected with the town by a bridge, at the land-end of which a well-built barrack additionally defends the shore.

The wind being light, the ships were towed to their stations abreast of the town; the Wasp and Stromboli anchored more

to the southward to flank it, and the *Gorgon*, *Cyclops*, and *Hydra* to the northward, close to the castle. A ~~general~~ summons was then despatched to the ~~governor of the town~~, which being refused, preparations were made ~~about noon~~ for the assault. The turkish battalion was now put into the boats, and having assembled round the Cyclops, a few shot and shell were fired from the Gorgon at the castle and barracks; shortly afterwards the whole squadron opened their broadsides, to drive the troops from the houses and the entrenchments. The ~~cannonade~~ continued for more than half an hour without much visible impression; but at one P.M. a breach was made in the sea-wall of the fort. The commodore then made the signal for the Turks to land, and the boats under the direction of captain Austen, accompanied by rear-admiral Walker, pulled steadily towards the shore; and as they approached, a heavy fire was opened upon them from the barracks and buildings, which was returned by the carronades in the british launches. The landing was effected with some loss, and the castle was taken possession of; but as the enemy stuck to their entrenchments, the fire of the ships was again opened, and the houses in front battered down. Commander Mansel, of the *Wasp*, was directed to seize the favourable opportunity of throwing the marines commanded by captain Whylock, and the austrian marines, into the castle on the south-west side of the town. This was accomplished with great gallantry and skill, and being exposed to a sharp fire from a steep acclivity, on which were a number of small houses strongly occupied by the enemy, lieutenant Charles F. Hockin of the royal marines, a young man of great promise, was killed, and several men wounded: they were then directed to work their way to the upper castle, which commanded the town. The first battalion of marines having landed on the beach to the northward of the town, the whole were ordered to move forward; and the turkish troops, led by rear-admiral Walker and captain Austen, pushed along the causeway and entered in that direction. In the mean time, the marines broke into the barracks,

and thence proceeding along the line wall to the upper gate, forced it open and seized the citadel. Leaving a guard at this post, they descended through several streets, arched over; where occasional skirmishing took place with detached parties of the egyptian troops, who finally took refuge in a vaulted barrack. In this building a thousand men were discovered, ready for a sortie should occasion offer; but as they immediately laid down their arms, the whole garrison, consisting of nearly 3000 men, were taken prisoners.

This gallant enterprise was accomplished with the comparatively trifling loss of lieutenant Hoskin of the marines, and 3 seamen killed; 2 master's-mates, the boatswain of the Cyclops, 6 seamen, and 12 marines wounded. Total, 4 killed and 21 wounded.

A postscript affixed to the hastily written letter of the commodore, states, "There was a complete race between Mr. James Hunt, midshipman of the *Stromboli*, and signor Dominica Chinca, midshipman of the austrian frigate, who should first place the colours in the part of the town where they landed." This postscript obtained for Mr. Hunt, by an order in Council (he not having served his time) his commission as lieutenant; but the credit of first placing the british colours on the walls of Sidon properly belonged to lieutenant Alexander Anderson of the royal marines, for it appears that this gallant officer had some time previously planted a union-jack nearly on the same spot, and soon afterwards removed the flag to a higher part of the town.

The officers of marines who assisted at the reduction of Sidon were as follows:—


Battalion commanded by captain James Whylock: captains Robert Leonard and James Dowman. Lieutenants Alexander Anderson, Edward Hocker, J. T. Aslett, Pitcairn Onslow, and E. T. P. Shewen.

Six companies of the first battalion commanded by captain Arthur Morrison: captains Frederick Spry, G. H. Palliser, and Joseph Childs. Lieutenants J. K. Willson (adjutant), Simon

Fraser, R. M. Curry, J. B. Pleydell ; second-lieutenants A. D. L. Farrant, Charles Louis, J. W. Wearing, L. W. R. Denman, William Jolliffe, W. B. Mends, and J. A. Stewart.

On the morning of the 8th of October, an order was issued for the marines of the camp to re-embark, and about sunset on that day the whole were on board their respective ships. On the 9th the turkish troops, commanded by commodore Napier, made a successful attack on the force of Ibrahim Pacha occupying the mountains of Lebanon ; and in consequence of their defeat, the town of Beyrout was evacuated, and on the same day 2000 Egyptians surrendered as prisoners of war. In the course of a few days Tripoli, Tortosa, and Letakia were abandoned by the Egyptians, and taken possession of by the inhabitants of the country, well disposed towards the Sultan.

Thus the whole line of the Syrian coast, with the exception of the town and fortifications of St. Jean d' Acre, had fallen ; and the reduction of that important fortress was the next object which occupied the attention of the allies. The season of the year was extremely unpropitious ; for generally about this time the Syrian coast is visited by heavy gales from the north-west, rendering the approach to the land extremely dangerous, and frequently fatal to any ship caught within limits. There was another consideration not to be disregarded : a powerful french squadron watched the progress of the British, and there were some symptoms of a hostile movement on the part of the french government. Commodore Napier and rear-admiral Walker Bey urged the immediate attempt ; whilst sir Rober Stopford, upon whom the sole responsibility would have rested, deferred the attack until he could, in some degree, ensure success ; and colonel sir Charles Smith, commander of the military operations, was not over sanguine as to the result. Despatches arrived from England on the 27th of October, which afforded a cover for undertaking the risk ; and the gallant admiral, gladly availing himself of lord Palmerston's letter, gave orders for the bombardment of Acre.



As a preliminary step, the turkish rear-admiral proceeded under the walls of the fortress in his ship to demand its surrender, but without success; and on the morning of the 31st of October, the force destined for the attack got under way from Beyrout, having on board 3000 turkish troops.

The squadron was composed of the following ships:

Princess Charlotte, 104 guns, admiral hon. sir R. Stopford, G. C. B., captain Arthur Fanshawe, 1 killed. Captain Morrison, lieutenants J. K. Willson, Simon Fraser, E. T. P. Shewen.

Powerful, 84 guns, commodore Charles Napier, C. B., 4 wounded. Major Whylock, captain Frederick Spry, lieutenants A. D. L. Farrant, L. W. R. Denman, and William Jolliffe.

Bellerophon, 80 guns, captain Charles Austen. Captain Henry Smith, lieutenants Edward Appleton and T. B. Pleydell.

Revenge, 76 guns, captain hon. W. Waldegrave, 2 killed, 4 wounded. Captain J. Childs, lieutenants H. W. Brooker, J. H. Stewart.

Thunderer, 84 guns, captain hon. M. F. F. Berkeley. Captain Hugh Palliser, lieutenants A. Anderson, John Phillips, R. M. Curry, W. B. Mends.

Edinburgh, 72 guns, captain W. W. Henderson, K. H., 4 killed, 7 wounded. Captain William Jolliffe, lieutenants Henry Varlo, James A. Stewart, and William Land.

Benbow, 72 guns, captain H. Stewart. Captain Richard Searle, lieutenants John W. Wearing, Robert S. Harrison.

Castor, 36 guns, captain E. Collier, 4 killed, 7 wounded. Lieutenants Berney Varlo and R. Y. S. Moubray.

Pique, 36 guns, captain Edward Boxer. Lieutenant Charles O. Hamley.

Carysfort, 26 guns, captain H. B. Martin. Lieutenant Henry G. Mitford.

Talbot, 26 guns, captain H. J. Codrington, 1 killed, 2 wounded.

Gorgon, steamer, captain W. H. Henderson. Lieutenant M'Callum.

Vesuvius, steamer, commander T. Henderson. Captain R. Leonard, lieutenants J. Dowman and E. Hocker.

Stromboli, steamer.

Phoenix, steamer, commander Robert T. Stopford.

Hazard, brig, 2 wounded.

Wasp, brig, 6 wounded. Lieutenant J. T. Aslett.

Austrian: Medea, rear-admiral Bandeira, 1 killed, 4 wounded.

„ Guerriera, captain H. I. H. the archduke Frederic, 1 killed, 2 wounded.

Mookad Demoy-i-shire, 74 guns, rear-admiral Walker Bey, 4 killed, 3 wounded.

Total,—18 killed, 41 wounded.

On the afternoon of the 2nd of November, the expedition reached the bay of Acre, and anchored about two miles distant from the town, where the Pique, Talbot, Wasp, and Hazard had been previously lying. The task of sounding and buoying off the channels leading to the positions opposite the batteries, had been performed with much skill under the orders of captains Boxer and Codrington; and the night preceding the attack was also employed, by many officers, in improving their knowledge of the different localities of the anchorage.

In order better to observe the proceedings of the ships, on the morning of the 3rd of November the admiral, accompanied by sir Charles Smith, embarked on board the Phoenix, leaving commodore Napier to conduct the division appointed to act against the western and strongest side, consisting of the Pique, Bellerophon, Thunderer, Princess Charlotte, Powerful, and Revenge, in line of battle.

At 9 h. 30 m. the ships got under way, but it was not until a little before 1 p.m., when the sea breeze set in, that they were under command, and the whole bore up for their stations. The plan laid down for the mode of attack was formed upon the

supposition that the ships would enter by the southern passage; but the change of wind rendered this impracticable for the ships of the line, and, consequently, the squadron was obliged to round the northern end of the shoal, and enter the channel in the opposite direction. The Powerful was to have brought up abreast of the southern angle of the west front, and the succeeding ships, passing on the outside, were to have anchored to the northward of her; but the commodore finding the necessity of deviating from the course originally laid down, made the signal, "I intend attacking north batteries," meaning that the ships astern should pass on, and anchor to the southward of him, thus reversing the original line of attack; this communication not being clearly understood, the Princess Charlotte and her successors, as soon as the Powerful had anchored, brought up astern and to the northward of her. The consequence was that these ships, generally, were from 800 to 1000 yards too far to the northward, leaving a large proportion of the forts unengaged.

About 2 h. 15 m., just as the commodore's division had anchored and opened their fire, the Castor and Talbot, followed by the Edinburgh, Benbow, Carysfort, Hazard, and Wasp, appointed to act against the southern face, came to an anchor within about 700 yards of the walls, and opened a spirited fire, while the remaining ships passed on to their respective stations. The Edinburgh, on clearing the Castor, dropped a stern-anchor close upon the frigate's starboard bow; and the succeeding ships brought up, as convenient, by the head or stern; and at about 2 h. 30 m. p. m. the action became general.

The Revenge had been kept under way as a reserve; but at 8 p. m. she was ordered, by signal from the admiral, to anchor in the vacant space a-head of the commodore, and was in a short time admirably placed in the station which had been thus assigned to her.

The four war-steamers placed themselves at the angle between the two lines, and the cannonade was maintained with such

vigour, that, to use the words of Mr. Hunter, "observation was confounded by the continuous roar of cannon, and by the masses of smoke which, in many-piled wreaths, began to envelope as well the ships as the fortress. When the smoke at short intervals cleared away, we got a glimpse of one or more of the embrasures; but for the most part, the only object seen to mark their locality was the blaze of lurid fire issuing from the pieces at the moment of discharge."

Thus affairs continued until a little after 4 P.M., when the east end of the fortress was for a moment in a blaze of light, and in the next enveloped in a dense and impenetrable cloud. The principal powder-magazine had exploded, in consequence, it is supposed, of a shell thrown from one of the steamers: bursting shells, masses of stone, and fragments of the building were scattered in all directions.

The cannonade, which for a moment had been stayed, was succeeded by a loud and continued cheer that resounded from ship to ship, and the firing was resumed with unabated energy until sunset, when not more than 20 guns in the battery remained undisabled. At this period the admiral made the signal to "cease firing," which was obeyed as soon as the flags became discernible; but the ships remained at anchor ready to renew the action. This preparation was however unnecessary, for the devastating effects of the british fire, and of the explosion, had rendered all further efforts of defence ineffectual. Of the 140 cannon mounted on the two sea-faces, 76 of the embrasures had been more or less struck, and 24 of these were rendered utterly ineffective for the working of the guns, and many of the latter were disabled. The explosion occurred in a portion of the fortress farthest from the sea, and consequently did not injure the portion of the works against which the fire of the squadron was directed; but it threw down a large portion of the principal inner fosse on the opposite, or land side.

"By the explosion," says colonel sir Charles Smith, in his despatch, "two entire regiments, formed in position on the ram-

parts, were annihilated, and every living creature within the area of 60,000 square yards ceased to exist; the loss of life being variously computed from 1200 to 2000 persons."

No ship sustained any material injury, but all were more or less struck by shot, and their masts and rigging much cut up. The Powerful was the only ship that had a spar shot away, and she lost her main top-gallant mast.

Some writers, in endeavouring to account for the trifling loss sustained by the fleet, attribute their escape to the ignorance of the Egyptians, in supposing that the buoys laid down to mark the shoals were the positions which the ships were to take up; and consequently, having pointed their guns at those objects, blocked up the embrasures so effectually, that it was impossible to train the pieces either to the right or left. It would be difficult to reason ourselves to believe that the skilful and intelligent engineer, who had been some months in the fortress, could be ignorant of the depth of water in every part of the bay, or of the extent and situation of the shoals; and we are supported in this view of the case, by the following remark of Mr. Hunter:—


"For the first half hour the united fire of the enemy was every where sustained. During the whole of that time, however, their guns had such a high degree of elevation, that but few shots comparatively struck the ships. It would appear that in their previous practice at the guns, they had never taken into consideration the fact that ships might approach so near the fortress, and before they had time effectually to correct their mistake, many of their guns were disabled. After an hour had elapsed, their fire was far more correct, and continued to improve during the whole of the action. On the other hand, the embrasures from which the fire was most destructive, were the united aim of every ship in the vicinity, and, one by one, were disabled."

On the 4th, in the morning, all the troops were landed under the command of colonel sir Charles Smith, and this ancient and far-famed fortress was taken quiet possession of by the allies.

On the 6th, a second explosion of shells took place in the ruins of the magazine, where a party of men were at work; by which a private of the royal marines was killed, captain Collier of the *Castor* had his leg broken, and many others were seriously injured. Sir Charles Smith thus describes the event:—"In a moment we were enveloped in darkness, accompanied by fragments of masonry, with musket-balls, shot, and exploding shells of every denomination. The exertions of the royal navy and marines have since been most conspicuous in extinguishing the fire, and in reducing, by precautionary measures, the risk which turkish evolutions, in the midst of gunpowder, must ever render more or less probable."

The thanks of Parliament were unanimously voted to the officers, seamen, and marines of the fleet, and abundant rewards were bestowed. The commodore was made a knight commander of the Bath; the twelve captains present at the bombardment of Acre, not previously so decorated, were made companions of the order: ten commanders made post-captains, 23 lieutenants advanced to the rank of commander, and 50 mates promoted to be lieutenants; and captains Robert Leonard and Frederick Spry of the marines, were promoted to the brevet-rank of major.

The fall of Acre terminated the hostile operations of the fleet on the coast of Syria, and we cannot better convey the sense entertained by the british nation of the eminent services that had been rendered, than quoting the sentiments expressed by so distinguished a warrior as the marquis of Anglesey at Portsmouth, on the 5th of August, 1841, at the banquet given by the corporation to admiral the right honourable sir Robert Stopford: "Great, glorious, and triumphant indeed those achievements have been. They are such as it is impossible for the nation at large too highly to appreciate, or for our most gracious sovereign too highly to reward. I congratulate the nation that we still have amongst us such able, such gallant men as many of those whom I have the happiness to see around me. I congratulate the brave officers and men who had the good fortune to partici-



pate in all the glories of the East ; I congratulate the navy at large on the high and noble proofs which have now lately been given that they have not degenerated ; I congratulate that gallant corps—that useful, that invaluable link in the chain which connects the two services of the sea and land, and which unites them in one common band of union, good-fellowship, and interest,—I speak, as you may well observe, of the royal marines,—I congratulate them on the splendid share they have had in all those victories. IT IS A CORPS WHICH NEVER APPEARED ON ANY OCCASION, OR UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, WITHOUT DOING HONOUR TO ITSELF AND ITS COUNTRY. Many of us here have lived in times when war has been conducted on a more extended scale than it has lately been ; but I do not believe, that if we were to search the page of history we could find one, notwithstanding the glorious examples which stand recorded on it,—still I do not believe we could find one in which this service stands more pre-eminently conspicuous, in which it holds a more commanding position, than it does at the present day, as compared with the same service in other nations.” On the same occasion commodore sir Charles Napier observed,—“As to those who were placed immediately under his orders, he could say that he never witnessed, during the whole course of their services, more zeal, more energy, and more determined perseverance than was displayed, not only by the officers of the navy, but by the marine officers in the late expedition.”

CHAPTER X.

Operations in China, from 1840 to 1842.

THE commencement of hostilities against the Chinese, was on the occasion of the british plenipotentiary soliciting captain Smith, of the 26-gun ship *Volage*, to get that ship under way from Macao roads, in company with the *Hyacinth* sloop, for the purpose of resisting twenty-nine war junks, under the command of admiral Kwan, who were descried bearing down with the intention of attacking the merchant shipping. A sharp action ensued, in which three of the junks were sunk, and the remainder driven on shore. Lieutenant Ayles of the marines was at that time serving on board the *Volage*.

On the 4th of July commodore J. J. G. Bremer, in the *Wellesley* 74, *Conway* and *Alligator* frigates, *Cruizer*, *Algerine*, and *Rattlesnake* sloops, *Young Hebe* schooner, *Atalanta* and *Queen* steamers, arrived off the town of Chusan, and sent an officer to summons the chinese vice-admiral to surrender the island. This led to an interview with his excellency on board the *Wellesley*, and to a full explanation of the intentions of the british government. On the 5th the chinese troops assembled in considerable numbers; and on the temple hill a force was posted with three guns in position, twenty-one guns in line on the different wharfs, and on a round tower of solid masonry they had five guns. The war junks were hauled on shore in line, and presented thirty-four guns and forty-five large gins; and the Chinese continued waving their flags, with every other demonstration that evinced a spirit of hostility.

Having waited until 2 P.M. without receiving any further communication from the chinese authorities, a shot was fired from the Wellesley at the round tower. The feeble defences of the town having immediately answered the fire, the whole squadron commenced a cannonade, which lasted only seven or eight minutes, in which short period the chinese troops had fled, their battery on the custom-house wharf destroyed, four junks shot to pieces, and not one person left visible in the town. The right wing of the 18th, or Royal Irish regiment, under the command of major Adams, the marines of the squadron, consisting of captain S. B. Ellis, lieutenants H. Marriott, John Urquhart, and E. P. H. Ussher, with 128 rank and file forming the advance, then landed, and were immediately followed by detachments of the 26th and 49th regiments, the Madras artillery and sappers and miners, and the residue of the troops ; and before the hour of 3 P.M. the british colours were seen flying on the first military position of the Chinese empire ever conquered by her britannic Majesty's arms.

At daylight on the 6th, 8 nine-pounders, 2 mortars, and 2 howitzers were in battery, within 400 yards of the wall ; and as the morning dawned, it was discovered that the bridges had been destroyed and the city evacuated. In the night a temporary bridge was thrown over the canal and the principal gate forced, by which the 49th regiment marched in, and the british colours were soon displayed on the walls of Chusan. The commodore thus expresses himself in his report of this attack to captain Ellis :—

“As the royal marines of the squadron, present on the 5th instant, were landed at Chusan under your command, by my order, I cannot allow the present moment to pass over without expressing to you, as their commanding officer, my entire approbation of the conduct of yourself and the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates forming the detachment on that occasion.

“The highly soldier-like appearance of the party, and the

general regularity and sobriety of the men on shore, when under great temptation, affords me extreme satisfaction, and is highly creditable to themselves. I have therefore to request that you will convey these sentiments to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the royal marines accordingly, who in the present instance have so fully maintained the high character of their distinguished corps."

"BRIGADE ORDERS.

Chusan, July 15th, 1840.

"As there appears to be no immediate prospect of ulterior operations for the land forces, brigadier Burrell, governor of Chusan, will no longer delay the expression of his warmest thanks to captain Ellis, and the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the Royal Marines, who, in conjunction with the troops, took possession of Chusan on the 5th instant.

"The flight of the enemy gave little opportunity of gaining distinction in the field, for which all were anxious, but governor Burrell had the satisfaction to observe the cheerful zeal with which the royal marines entered upon the service, and the steadiness with which they formed on landing; and his excellency considers it highly to the credit of this distinguished corps, that amongst a considerable body, taken from different ships, not a single instance of misconduct was laid to the charge of any individual during their bivouac on shore and re-embarkation.

"Captain Ellis is requested to make this order known to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, who were under his command on this occasion.

(Signed)

A. S. H. MOUNTAIN,
MAJOR, D. A.-G."

The english residents at Macao having experienced considerable annoyance from a strong force of the Chinese encamped near the "barrier," they were induced to make application to the senior officer of the british squadron for assistance. Captain H. Smith, of the 44-gun frigate *Druid*, immediately gave directions for the detachments of marines of that ship, the *Larne*

and Hyacinth, about 100 strong, under first-lieutenant W. R. Maxwell and second-lieutenant James Pickard, to prepare for disembarkation; and at about 2 P.M. on the 19th of August this force, accompanied by a party of seamen with a field-piece, landed on the beach, covered by the Larne and Hyacinth, who directed their fire at one of the principal batteries, as well as upon the chinese encampment and ten war junks. The marines moved forward, and on reaching the summit of the hill they became exposed to a heavy discharge of round and grape from the fort, and musketry from a considerable body of infantry, who advanced with much determination until they were checked by a well-directed volley, which threw them into confusion, when they immediately gave way, taking with them a number of killed and wounded.

Lieutenant Maxwell was then ordered to retire with his detachment to the beach, to await the arrival of the Bengal volunteers; and after the lapse of an hour, these troops, commanded by captain Mee, were landed. That officer, having placed the marines on the right of the volunteers, and a party of seamen on either flank of the line, with their field-piece, advanced towards the fort, which they entered without opposition, the Chinese having retired to their war junks, and to the portuguese battery on the Macao side of the "barrier." After a short cannonade the enemy abandoned their guns, and fled in all directions.

Having destroyed the forts with their stores, and spiked the guns, the British returned to their respective ships without having incurred any loss, beyond a few men wounded by an explosion. The Chinese are estimated to have sustained a loss of about 50 in killed and wounded.

1841.

Negotiations were carried on by the plenipotentiaries, and nothing hostile took place until the 7th of January, 1841, when the detachments of marines of the squadron, amounting to 3 captains, 9 subalterns, 17 serjeants, 11 fifiers, 458 privates, and

6 privates of the 18th regiment, were formed into a battalion, under the following officers:—Captain S. B. Ellis, commanding; captains H. J. Gillespie and James Whitcomb; lieutenants R. Gordon, R. O. Bridge, A. B. Stransham (adjutant), W. R. Maxwell, F. J. White, E. P. H. Ussher, G. W. Whiting, R. Farmer, and J. Pickard, were landed without opposition about two miles below Chuenpee-point, in conjunction with a detachment of artillery, having one twenty-four pounder howitzer, and 2 six-pounder field-guns, aided by a party of seamen, detachments of the 26th and 49th regiments, the 37th Madras native infantry, and a detachment of Bengal volunteers,—in all 1400 men; the whole commanded by major T. S. Pratt, 26th Cameronians.

Captain Ellis was ordered to advance with two companies, supported by the detachments of the 26th and 49th regiments, followed in column by the marine battalion, the 37th native infantry, and the Bengal volunteers.

After advancing a mile and a half, on reaching the ridge of the hill they came in sight of the upper fort, and of a very strong entrenchment, having a deep ditch outside and a breast-work round it, which was prolonged upwards, connecting it with the upper fort; it was also flanked by field batteries, having deep trenches in rear of the guns for the purpose of shelter; the whole was strongly lined with chinese soldiers, who, cheering and waving their flags in defiance, opened a fire from their defences. The guns of the british were quickly placed on the crest of the ridge, and a cannonade continued on both sides for about twenty minutes. During this time, the "advance" crossed the shoulder of the hill to the right, driving before them the Chinese; then descending into the valley, took possession of a field battery placed there, and moved forward to dislodge a large force of the enemy occupying the crest of a wooded hill in front. Two companies of the 37th had previously gone round the hill to the right of the advance, where they encountered the Chinese, and drove them away with much loss. The advance having cleared the wooded hill in front, the 3rd and 4th com-

panies of the marine battalion, under captain Whitcomb, passed by the valley to the left, and forced an entrance into the enemy's strongly stockaded work, and by that means gained the upper fort, the capture of which was accelerated by the right subdivision of the 4th company, under lieutenant Whiting. Two privates of the Wellesley, named Bennett and Knight, having fought their way through one of the embrasures, the latter struck the imperial banner; and having hoisted the british colours, their gallant achievement was cheered by the ships lying in the bay.

The lower fort of 16 guns, facing the sea, surrounded by a high wall, with a battery of 4 guns on its left flank, had been completely silenced by the ships; but the lower part continued in possession of the enemy, until the advance, coming round the lower side to the gate, forced it by musketry; and more men entering by the embrasure on the flank, the british colours were soon hoisted on this post. The forts and magazines were destroyed: above 300 Chinese were killed and wounded, and 100 prisoners taken, who were released in the evening. Lieutenant F. S. White (slightly), 2 serjeants, and 7 privates of the marines were severely wounded, and the total British loss amounted to 30 wounded.

Major Pratt, in his official report, says, "I must particularly mention captain Ellis, commanding the marine battalion, an old and previously distinguished officer, who conducted the advance during the whole day with the greatest gallantry and judgment. From lieutenant Stransham, adjutant of the royal marines, who acted as brigade-major, I received most valuable assistance during the day."

The commodore, in his letter of the 18th of January, observes: "I avail myself of this occasion to express my hope that their lordships will be pleased to bestow some marks of their favour on captain Ellis, royal marines, of this ship. This meritorious old officer was in sir Robert Calder's action, in Trafalgar, in the Potomac, and many other brilliant affairs. The order which he established in the battalion of royal marines, and the gal-

lantry with which he led the advance of the force on the 7th, were such as to entitle him to my thanks and admiration, and I venture to recommend him to their lordships accordingly."

On the 11th of June the promotion of major Thomas Simson Pratt of the 26th, to be lieutenant-colonel in the army, and captain Samuel Burdon Ellis of the royal marines, to be major in the army, was officially announced.

On the 25th of February preparations were made for an attack on the formidable batteries at the entrance of the Bocca Tigris river. In advance of the old fort of Anunghoy, and partly surrounding it, was a new, well-built battery of granite, forming a segment of about two-thirds of a circle: on it were mounted 42 guns. Several strong entrenchments extended to the southward of this battery, and the ridges of the hills were crowned with guns, up to a camp calculated for about 1200 men. On the north side was a straight work of modern erection, mounting 60 heavy guns; about 150 yards of rocky beach intervened between the end of this battery and the northern circular battery, on which 40 guns were mounted. All these works were protected by a high wall, extending up the hill, on which were steps, or platforms, for firing musketry; and in the interior were the magazines and barracks.

On the east side of the island of North Wangtong was a battery, with a double tier of guns, defending the passage on that side, and also partly flanking a number of rafts, constructed of large masses of timber, moored across the river (about twelve feet apart) with two anchors each, connected by and supporting four parts of a chain cable, the ends of which were secured under masonry work,—one on South Wangtong, the other on Anunghoy. On the western end of North Wangtong was a strong battery of 40 guns, flanked by a field-work of 17; in fact, the whole island was a continued fortification.

On the extreme western side of the channel was a battery of 22 guns, and a field-work of 17, protecting an entrenched camp, containing about 1500 or 2000 men. South Wangtong was not

occupied by the enemy, and being an excellent position, a work was thrown up upon it by the british, during the night of the 25th, mounted with 2 eight-inch iron, and 1 twenty-four pounder brass howitzer. At daylight on the 26th this battery was opened with admirable effect by captain Knowles of the royal artillery, throwing shells and rockets into North Wangtong, and occasionally into Anunghoy.

At 11 A.M., the breeze springing up, the fleet stood in, the 74-gun ships Blenheim and Melville, 2 war-steamers, and four rocket-boats attacking Anunghoy; whilst the 74-gun ship Wellesley, frigates Druid, Calliope, Samarang, Herald, Alligator, and Modeste were opposed to the batteries on the south, south-west, and north-west of Wangtong, and the forts on the western side of the channel. In less than an hour the batteries on Wangtong were silenced, and the troops under the command of Major Pratt of the 26th regiment, which had previously embarked in the Madagascar and Nemesis steamers, were landed, and in a few minutes became masters of the island, without any loss, and 1300 chinese troops surrendered.

The Anunghoy batteries having been silenced by the Blenheim, Melville, and Queen, sir F. Senhouse landed on the southern battery at the head of the marines, under captains Gillespie and Whitcomb, with a party of small-arm men; and having driven the Chinese in all directions, before one P.M. the british colours were flying on the whole chain of those celebrated works. To use the words of the commodore, "The individual gallantry displayed by the whole force, convinces me that almost any number of men the Chinese can collect would not be able to stand before them for a moment." The loss sustained by them at Wangtong amounted to about 250 killed and wounded, and about the same number in Anunghoy, at which place Admiral Kwan, and several other mandarins of rank fell.

On the morning of the 27th, the light squadron proceeded up the river under the command of captain Herbert, who, on his arrival off the first bar, found the enemy strongly fortified on

the left bank of the river, close to Whampoo reach, with upwards of forty war-junks, and the Cambridge mounting 34 guns. On the approach of the Madagascar and Nemesis steamers, the Chinese opened a heavy fire, but the ships arriving up, soon silenced the enemy's vessels and batteries. The marines and small-arm men then landed and stormed the works, driving before them upwards of 2000 of the Chinese troops, and killing nearly 300. All the defences were carried, and the Cambridge blown up. Only one man was killed on the part of the British, and 8 wounded.

Captain Herbert thus expresses himself in his official report: "To lieutenant A. B. Stransham of the marines, of the Calliope, I have to acknowledge my sense of his services in arranging and directing the marines of the squadron on landing, and for his endeavours to repress the destruction of life after resistance had ceased. He speaks in high terms of the support he received from lieutenants C. C. Hewitt and H. Marriott."

Sir Hugh Gough assumed the command of the land forces on the 2nd of March; and on the 4th captain Ellis, with a detachment of marines, took possession of a large joss-house, whilst the seamen soon removed the stakes in the river, and made a clear passage for the ships.

On the right bank of the river, on a point formed by the mouth of a creek, was Howqua's fort, a square building mounting 30 guns; from its northern angle, the stakes mentioned extended to the opposite bank, the ground on each side being paddy-fields, cut and intersected by canals in all directions. The joss-house rather projected in the stream, and consequently was a good position. The river here is about 500 yards wide: in front is a long low island, which divides the river into two branches; and on the extreme eastern point stood a fort mounting 35 guns, built to commemorate the death of the late lord Napier, from which well constructed and secured rafts, forming a bridge, extended to both sides of the river. On its right bank, flanking the fort of 35 guns, was a mud battery,

intended for 55 guns; on the left was a battery, also flanking the former fort, on which the enemy had 44 guns, most of which they withdrew on the night of the 4th. In addition to these defences, stone junks were sunk in all parts of the river between the stakes and the left of Napier's fort, which rafts also rested upon sunken junks, secured on either side within piles.

On the 5th preparations were made to attack this formidable position. Major-general Gough landed at the joss-house with the royal marines and a detachment of the 26th, for the purpose of taking the battery on the left bank. The ships having weighed, were dropping up with the tide; but on the approach of the first ship the enemy fired all their guns, and fled across the rafts and in boats. Possession was immediately taken, and the british colours hoisted.

The expedition had thus successfully moved on towards Canton, when, on the 6th, captain Elliott requested the military operations to be stayed, until he had tried the effect of another proclamation; consequently the troops re-embarked, and the ships dropped down to Wangtung. Temporizing was not the system to be pursued with the Chinese; and his excellency, soon finding himself deceived, had recourse to the following :

“ *Macao, 10th March, 1841.*

“ A report has this day reached the undersigned, to the effect that the authorities of Canton have granted pilot-chops to ships *other than British* to proceed to Whampoa; a close embargo will therefore be laid on the city and trade of Canton, unless and until the whole foreign trade proceeds upon a perfectly equal footing.

(Signed) CHARLES ELLIOTT,
HER MAJESTY'S PLENIPOTENTIARY.”

On the 12th of March an attempt was made to approach Canton, by a hitherto unfrequented passage, by the Madagascar, Modeste, and Sulphur, accompanied by armed boats, in which

were embarked several detachments of marines. Having arrived within two miles of Canton, captain Herbert summoned the Macao-passage fort to surrender, but without effect. On the following day, the 13th, the *Modeste* and *Madagascar* opened their fire upon this fort, mounting 22 guns of different calibre, having also 8 dismounted guns of small size placed on a raised embankment, to which a train was laid, calculated to sweep the causeway and platform. From the small island on which the fort is built, a strong raft stretched to the shore, and another, imperfectly constructed, communicated with a village on the opposite side. After some firing from the *Modeste*, the boats dashed on and were soon in possession of the fort, with the comparative small loss of 3 wounded.

Captain Herbert, in his official report, observes: "And the royal marines, under the orders of lieutenant Stransham, assisted by lieutenants Urquhart, Hewitt, Marriott, and Polkinghorne, acquitted themselves on the occasion as that gallant corps is always in the habit of doing."

The proximity of this fort to Canton, and its position as a convenient rendezvous, made it desirable to be held in possession, and the marines belonging to the advanced squadron were placed in garrison, under command of lieutenant Stransham.

In consequence of the Chinese firing on the british flag-of-truce on the 17th of March, captain Herbert brought up a flotilla of four divisions of boats, under the direction of captain Bouchier; and having embarked 6 officers and 227 rank and file from the garrison of the fort, passed to the northward, covered by the *Modeste* and other vessels, and with the *Madagascar* steamer engaged the batteries situated on a slight elevation on the left bank of the stream. It was with difficulty that the British reached the shore, but having gained a footing, the Chinese fled at all points, severely harassed, to a short distance beyond the limits of the works, which were bounded on all sides by rice swamps. In the mean while the british factory was taken possession of, the consulate flag rehoisted, and all the

small forts in the immediate neighbourhood fell into the hands of the naval force.

Captain Herbert thus expresses himself: "The royal marines under lieutenant Stransham of the *Calliope*, assisted by lieutenants Urquhart, Daniel, Hewitt, Marriott, and Polkinghorne, were as usual conspicuous for their gallant, steady, soldierly bearing. I have however to regret that lieutenant Stransham, in exerting himself to destroy the works, was suddenly exposed to a heavy explosion, by which he has been considerably burnt, but he continues at his post."

In this affair an officer and 6 seamen were wounded. The result of these proceedings, as announced by proclamation of the Plenipotentiary on the 20th of March, was a suspension of hostilities, and the opening of the trade by the imperial commissioner. The british ships of war and flotilla were in consequence moved from the front of the factory, and from the suburb of Shameen, half way down towards the Macao-passage fort.

Active operations were resumed in the early part of May, and on the 21st the *Blenheim* took up a position within six miles of Canton in the Macao passage; but it was not until the 23rd that the whole force had assembled, and at 2 p. m. on that day the troops were placed on board various craft, which had been procured for their conveyance. The principal point of debarkation was to take place to the north-west of the city, while another column was to take possession of the factories, drawing the attention of the enemy to that quarter, and at the same time to co-operate with the naval force, which was to attack the river defences, in order to silence numerous works recently erected by the Chinese along the whole southern face of the city. Captain Belcher having by a judicious reconnoissance established the practicability of this arrangement, the force moved to the point of attack as follows:


Right column, to attack the factories: major Pratt, 26th regiment, 17 officers, 344 men. Left brigade: lieutenant-colonel Morris, 49th regiment, 40 officers, 606 men. Artillery, under

captain Knowles, 16 officers, 401 men. Naval brigade, under captain Bouchier, 27 officers, 403 men. Right brigade, (reserve, under major-general Burrell,) royal marines, captain Ellis, 9 officers, 372 men; 18th Royal Irish, lieutenant-colonel Adams, 25 officers, 494 men.

The factories were taken possession of by the right column at 5 P.M., and shortly afterwards the left brigade also landed: the remainder of the troops disembarked early the next morning near the village of Tsing-hae, and moved forward until within reach of the four strong forts on the heights, and the northern face of the city walls, where they halted until the arrival of the rocket-battery and artillery at 8 A.M., when a well-directed fire was kept up with two 5½-inch mortars, 2 twelve-pounder howitzers, and 2 seven-pounder guns, on the two western forts. The troops now advanced to the attack in echelon columns from the left,—the 49th regiment to carry a hill on the left of the nearest eastern fort, supported by the 37th Madras native infantry and Bengal volunteers, under lieutenant-colonel Morris of the 49th regiment; the 18th Royal Irish, supported by the royal marines, under major-general Burrell, to carry a hill in their front, which was strongly occupied, and flanked the approach to the fort just mentioned, and by this movement to cut off the communication between the two eastern forts: the major-general was then to take the principal square fort, when the 49th made their rush. Simultaneous with these attacks, the brigade of seamen was to carry the two western forts, covered by the artillery.

During the advance, a large body of the enemy assembled on the right; consequently the marines under captain Ellis were detached to support the brigade of seamen, and to cover the right and rear of the columns of attack. In little more than half an hour after the order was given to advance, the two forts were captured with comparatively small loss, and the british troops looked down upon Canton, within one hundred paces of its walls.

In co-operation with this attack, the brigade of seamen carried the two western forts, and the british standard proudly waved on their walls. During the greater part of the day, the enemy kept up a smart fire upon the different columns occupying the heights and forts; and frequent attacks were made upon the left by parties from a considerable encampment on a rising ground to the north-east of the city, but they were as frequently repulsed by the 49th regiment. About 3 P. M., as preparations were making for a fresh attack, the 18th under brigadier-general Burrell, and a company of marines under lieutenant Maxwell, reinforced the 49th; and having crossed a narrow causeway, the only means of approach, they gallantly advanced under a heavy fire from the guns and gingals on the north-east face of the city wall, and drove the enemy at all points. The encampment was burnt, the magazines and buildings destroyed, and the troops returned to the heights. On the 26th arrangements were made for an immediate assault of the city, and the right column, composed of the marines under captain Ellis, was to pass through a deserted village to the right of the north gate, which was to be blown open with powder-bags; but if that could not be effected, they were to escalate a circular work thrown up as a second defence to that gate. On the 27th, when the troops were about to move forward to the assault, an officer arrived with a letter from her Majesty's plenipotentiary, addressed to sir Hugh Gough and sir Fleming Senhouse, to the following effect: "The imperial commissioner, and all the troops other than those of the province, to quit the city within six days, and remove at a distance of 60 miles. Six millions of dollars to be paid in one week for the use of the crown of England,—one million before to-morrow at sunset. The british troops to remain in their actual positions until the whole sum be paid; but all the troops and the ships of war to return without the Bocca Tigris as soon as the whole be paid. Wangtong also to be evacuated, but not to be armed by the Chinese until the difficulties are adjusted between the two governments." Sir Hugh Gough observes:—



“Whatever might be my sentiments, my duty was to acquiesce. The attack, which was to have commenced in forty minutes, was countermanded, and the feelings of the Chinese were spared. Of the policy of the measure I do not consider myself a competent judge.”

On the 29th large bodies of the Chinese, armed with matchlocks, spears, and swords, appearing on the heights, three or four miles in rear of the British army, the troops drove them from their position without sustaining any loss, the Chinese throwing away their arms and flying the moment a fire was opened upon them. During the dispersion of these masses of the enemy hovering around the British, a company of the 37th Madras native infantry had been detached to keep up the communication with the 26th regiment on the left, and during a heavy storm and incessant rain, the detachment lost their way. Soon after the troops had fallen back, it was discovered that this company of the 37th Madras native infantry was missing, and two companies of the 49th went off in search. Lieutenant G. W. Whiting, with a company of marines armed with percussion-muskets, accompanied by captain Duff of the 37th, also proceeded on the same service. After marching several miles in a dark night with the rain falling fast, without finding the missing company, lieutenant Whiting ordered a musket to be fired, which was quickly answered by three cheers from the company of the 37th, who were found in a paddy-field formed in square, up to their knees in water, resisting a large body of Chinese who were within a short distance. He then formed his men in line, and opened so smart a fire on the enemy that they instantly retired, unable to account for this discharge of musketry; for it appears that the company of the 37th, commanded by lieutenant Hadfield, had been hardly pressed by the enemy, who, on discovering that the rain prevented the muskets from being discharged, attacked the British with spears so resolutely, that he was compelled to form square; and during their repeated attacks, the 37th had 1 officer and 8 men killed and wounded.

Thus rescued, this detachment, consisting of 5 officers and 60 rank and file, returned to head-quarters, accompanied by the marines under lieutenant Whiting, expressing their gratitude to that officer for his determination and perseverance. Lieutenant Whiting was honoured with the approbation of the commander-in-chief; but lieutenant Hadfield of the 37th, for *his services* on this occasion, on being promoted to a company, obtained the brevet rank of major, and a staff appointment.

The percussion-muskets were supplied to the marines of the Blenheim at the request of captain Whitcomb, and in consequence of that application the detachment of the Blonde was furnished with arms of the same description; and the first time that the percussion-musket was used in the british army on service, was at the capture of Canton.

British loss on the 25th of May, 9 killed and 68 wounded; 30th of May, 5 killed and 23 wounded. Total,—14 killed and 91 wounded.

On this occasion the battalion of marines consisted of the following officers:—Captain Ellis, commanding; captain James Whitcomb; lieutenants A. B. Stransham (adjutant), W. R. Maxwell, F. J. White, E. P. H. Ussher, G. W. Whiting, R. Farmer, and F. J. Polkinghorne.

The Chinese having paid five millions of dollars, and given security for payment of the remaining million as stipulated, for the ransom of Canton, and the tartar troops withdrawn from the city, agreeably with the terms of the treaty, the British returned on board the squadron.

On the 21st of August an expedition left Hong Kong harbour, and arrived in the outward anchorage of Amoy on the 24th. The enemy's defences were of great strength; every island and headland, whence guns could bear upon the harbour, was fortified, and the sea-line of defence, after a succession of batteries and bastions in front of the outer town, extended for upwards of a mile in one continuous battery of stone, with embrasures roofed by large slabs, thickly covered with clods of earth, and

affording perfect shelter to the men working the guns. Between some of the embrasures were embankments to protect the masonry, and 96 guns were mounted on the work, which terminated in a castellated wall, connecting it with a range of precipitous rocky heights that run nearly parallel to the beach, a distance varying from a quarter to half a mile; and several smaller works were apparent at intervals amid the rocks. About 340 guns were mounted on the whole of the batteries, including those on the west-side of the bay.

The entrance to the inner harbour is by a channel about 600 yards across, between Amoy and the island of Koo-lang-soo, upon which strong batteries were visible, and some of those flanked the sea-line stone battery. It was therefore expedient to make a simultaneous attack on these two prominent lines of defence.

At about 1 h. 30 m. P.M. the attack commenced, the enemy having previously fired upon the ships as they proceeded to their stations. The Wellesley and Blenheim, after ranging along the line of works on Amoy under a smart fire, anchored by the stern at 2 h. 30 m. P.M., within 400 yards of the principal battery; and the Cruizer, Pylades, Columbine, and Algerine took their positions at the extreme point of the line, and covered the landing of the troops, flanked by the heavy guns of the *Sesotris* and *Queen* steam-vessels. The *Blonde*, *Druid*, and *Modeste* reached their stations against the batteries of Koo-lang-soo; and at 3 h. 30 m. 172 marines under captain Ellis, with lieutenants Hewitt, Maxwell, Ussher, Whiting, Pickard, Farmer, and Polkinghorne, followed by the companies of the 26th regiment under major Johnstone, landed, and the british colours were soon planted on the batteries. The *Modeste* and *Blonde* then weighed and stood into the inner harbour, and after silencing the town batteries, anchored inside and abreast of the city, capturing of twenty-four war junks, with 128 guns on board, but deserted by their crews. About this time the first division of the troops landed, and took possession of the barrier

wall. An outwork was also entered, and the batteries opposite the Wellesley and Blenheim being nearly demolished, a party of seamen under commander Fletcher, and the marines under captain Whitcomb, with lieutenant F. J. White, were landed, and drove the enemy from their guns. Every point being now in the power of the British, they occupied the heights above the town for the night.

Amoy is a principal third-class city of China, and from its excellent harbour and situation is well calculated for commerce. The outer town is divided from the city by a chain of rocks, over which a paved road leads through a pass that has a covered gateway at its summit. The outer harbour skirts the outer town, while the city is bounded, in nearly its whole length, by the inner harbour and an estuary, which deeply indent the island. Including the outer town and the north-eastern suburb, the city is about ten miles in circumference; and that of the citadel, which entirely commands this suburb and inner town, though commanded itself by the hills within shot-range, is nearly one mile. The walls are castellated, and vary with the irregularity of the ground from 20 to 30 feet in height; and there are four gates, having each, in an outwork, a second or exterior gate at right angles to the inner one. The citadel contained five arsenals, in which was found a large quantity of powder and military stores of various descriptions; and within the sea-defences first taken was a foundry, with moulds and materials for casting heavy ordnance. All these were destroyed, and great part plundered by the Chinese; who, to the amount of thousands, flocked into the city and suburbs.

On the evening of the 4th the whole of the troops re-embarked from Amoy, and a force of 550 men of the 18th and 26th regiments, and a detachment of artillery under major Johnstone, remained in possession of the island of Koo-lang-soo. The loss sustained by the ships was no greater than one man killed and seven wounded.

The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the expedi-

tion quitting Amoy until the 5th of September. On the 21st the fleet reached the Chusan group of islands, and gained the anchorage of Just-in-the-way on the 24th, with the preconceived intention of making an attack on Chinghae, and pressing forward by the Ta-hae river to take possession of Ningpo.

Since the british forces were withdrawn in February last, the Chinese had been indefatigable in erecting batteries, and it was almost inconceivable that so much could have been done by them. From the western extremity, outside Guard island, to the eastern termination of their works, which extend half a mile beyond the commanding position of the joss-house, or temple hill, there was a continued line of strong battery on the sea-face, principally constructed of mud, comprising 267 embrasures for guns, and 95 of various calibre actually mounted on different points, independently of 41 planted on the ramparts of the city, and numerous gingals in every direction. The rapidity of the tides in the different channels to Chusan harbour is so great, as frequently to render large ships quite unmanageable, even with the assistance of steam-vessels; and as it was uncertain if they could be placed in any precise position, it was considered necessary to land the troops and seamen to the westward of the sea-defences, and take them in reverse. There was a stone-work with eight embrasures on Guard island, to defend the point on which it was proposed to disembark the force; and about 1200 yards above it, on a steep hill, was a strongly fortified encampment. The *Modeste* and small vessels anchored close to the battery, to prevent its occupation, while the *Nemesis* made a considerable breach in the walls of the fortified encampment. The north-easterly gales prevented the removal of the fleet from the anchorage of Just-in-the-way before the 29th, when the men-of-war and part of the transports reached the outer harbour of Chusan. The *Modeste*, *Blonde*, and *Jupiter*, with the *Queen* steam-vessel, proceeded to take up a position on the south side of the *Macclesfield* and *Trumbull* islands, to cover a party of the royal artillery, under captain Knowles, in erecting a battery of one

sixty-eight and 2 twenty-four pounder howitzers, against the joss-house hill and the adjoining works, which kept up a frequent, but ineffectual fire; and this service was accomplished with great celerity. The Wellesley was moved as close as possible to the intended point of landing, while the Cruizer and Columbine were advanced within 200 yards of the beach, and by well-directed shots from these vessels, and shells from the Sesostris, the Chinese were completely kept in check. The remainder of the transports arrived on the 30th, and early on the morning of the 12th of October the disembarkation commenced. The 18th and 55th regiments, with the rifle company of the 36th Madras native infantry, and eight guns of the Madras artillery, forming the first division, having landed, lieutenant-colonel Craigie, commanding the column, pushed forward with the two companies of the 55th, and drove the enemy from the heights; and being followed by the remainder of the division, carried the whole extent of the ridge of hills, terminating in a fortified camp. This movement completely turned the right of the enemy's positions, and gave command of a bridge which led direct on the flank of the whole line of sea-defence. The troops and artillery being landed, and the light guns placed so as to enfilade the line of batteries, the 18th regiment, under lieutenant-colonel Adams, advanced on this point, in the face of a very large force, and occupied the joss-house hill, which the well-directed fire of the squadron, and the guns on Trumbull island, had compelled the enemy to evacuate. The 55th, covered by their rifles, moved on to the heights overlooking the city to the north-west, and the light guns of the Madras artillery having been brought to the summit, opened their fire on the walls and town. The enemy was now in full retreat through the north and east gates, although a few guns and gingals continued to be fired from the walls. The scaling-ladders having been brought up by the Madras sappers, the 55th proceeded to the escalade, and the colours of that regiment were seen waving on the walls of Tinghae, while those of the Royal Irish were

planted on the joss-house hill, above the suburbs. The 49th regiment and the battalion of marines, together with a body of seamen, formed the right column under lieutenant-colonel Morris, and were to have attacked the sea-defences; but as the 49th was not landed in time for that purpose, the marines immediately pushed forward in support of the 18th; and the 49th, on speedily arriving, proceeded to occupy the south gate of the city.

The enemy suffered very considerably: several of their principal mandarins were killed, and the Chinese fled in all directions, throwing away their arms and clothing. The loss sustained by the troops amounted to one officer and one rank and file killed, and 27 wounded. Navy, 3 wounded.

The total of ordnance mounted on the works,—110 iron, and 26 brass guns, with 540 gingals, carrying from a half to one pound.

On the 7th the troops re-embarked, and on the following day most of the transports were moved to the anchorage of Just-in-the-way, four leagues in advance; the commanders-in-chief reconnoitred the points of the intended attack, and found that every preparation was made for a determined resistance.

The city of Chinghae is situated at the foot of a very commanding peninsular height, which forms the entrance of the Ta-hae river, on its left or north bank. It is enclosed in a wall 37 feet in thickness and 22 feet high, with an embrasured parapet of four feet high, and nearly two miles in circumference. On the summit is the citadel, which from its strong position is considered the key to Chinghae and the large and opulent city of Ningpo, about fifteen miles up the river; and it is important as a military post, standing about 250 feet above the sea, encircled by a strong wall, with very substantial iron-plated gates at the east and west ends. The north and south sides of the height are extremely steep, the former accessible only from the sea by a narrow winding path from the rocks at its base, the south side and eastern end being nearly precipitous. At the east end

of the citadel, outside its wall, twenty guns were mounted in three batteries of masonry, and bags, to defend the entrance of the river. The only communication between the citadel and the city is on the west side, by a steep but regular causeway to a barrier-gate at the bottom of the hill, where a wooden bridge, over a wet ditch, connects it with the isthmus and the gates of the city, the whole of which are covered with iron plates, and strongly secured. The space on the isthmus between the citadel-hill and the city, is filled up towards the sea with a battery of five guns, having a row of strong piles driven in on a little beach beneath it, to prevent a descent in that quarter; and on the river side of the isthmus are two batteries adjoining the suburbs, mounting twenty-two and nineteen guns, for flanking the entrance. Twenty-eight guns and numberless gingals were placed on the city walls, and principally towards the sea. The main body of the chinese forces were posted on the right bank of the river in fortified encampments, on very commanding and steep hills, field-works and entrenchments being thrown up in every advantageous position, with twenty-three guns and innumerable gingals mounted in them, to impede the advance of the troops. The principal landing-place on this side is within a considerable creek close to the south entrance of the river, and across this creek a row of piles was driven. Four newly-constructed batteries, mounting twenty-one guns, were on this side of the river to flank the entrance; and about half a mile above its mouth a similar obstruction of larger piles was carried completely across, space only being left for one junk to pass at a time. In short, the Chinese had exercised great ingenuity in making their defences secure, and great amount of treasure and labour were expended in the execution of these works, fully evincing the importance they attached to this position.

On the evening of the 9th the fleet anchored off Chinghae, and at an early hour on the 10th the troops proceeded in the steamers and boats of the transports to the points of debarkation. The citadel hill cannot be approached for an attack by large ships

except on the north side, and even there the water is so shallow that it is only in calm weather that they can be carried, with safety, sufficiently near to fire with effect. Fortunately the day was remarkably fine, and as soon as the tide served, the Wellesley was towed by the Sesostris into an excellent position, where the anchor was dropped, at about a quarter before nine o'clock, in four fathoms, about 1300 yards from the citadel and town wall. As the water ebbed, she settled imperceptibly into a bottom of soft mud, and was as steady as a land battery. The Blenheim soon afterwards also anchored, while the Blonde and Modeste took their stations under sail. The precision of the fire of both shot and shell was admirable, and soon gave indication of their powerful effect on the enemy's works.

At daylight the left column, consisting of a wing of the 18th, five companies of the 55th, the rifle company of the Madras native infantry, a company of Madras artillery, and one of sappers,—in all 1040 men, with light howitzers and two 5½-inch mortars, the whole commanded by lieutenant-colonel Craigie, were embarked in the steamers, accompanied by sir Hugh Gough, and having run close to the shore, were speedily landed. Soon afterwards the centre column, consisting of the 49th regiment, detachments of royal and Madras artillery, and 50 sappers, amounting altogether to 440 men, with 2 twelve-pounder howitzers, and 2 nine-pounder field-guns, under command of lieutenant-colonel Morris, landed about a mile to the right, under a detached rocky hill near the mouth of the creek already described, and on the opposite bank, having on its front a part of the low flat between it and the enemy's position; the object being to threaten a front attack, and deter the enemy from weakening his centre to support his right; which the left column, under the superintendence of the commander-in-chief, was destined to turn.

Immediately after landing, the left column moved rapidly over a succession of steep hills that skirted the intervening flat in front of the enemy's position, until it reached a point whence

a full view was obtained of the whole position, and of the two bridges over the canal. The rifle company, supported by the 18th, occupied a few houses to protect the bridge in front, and lieutenant-colonel Craigie, with the 55th, accompanied by captain Pears, commanding engineer, moved quickly on to the second bridge, which was about a mile further up the flat, crossed it, and rushed on for the hills beyond; thus turning the extreme right of the enemy's position, and threatening to cut off his retreat. By this time the centre column had formed, and showed its head on the opposite side of the flat, just out of gingal range, contemplating a front attack. Having formed the 18th at the foot of the bridge to cover the rifles, that company was directed to pass over in Indian file, in face of a large body of the enemy assembled in an advanced redoubt upon the summit of an eminence within 150 yards, who cheered their approach, but unaccountably, reserved their fire. The rifles having taken post behind a hill just beyond the bridge, the 18th moved across; and finding that the 55th had arrived at its point of attack, the 49th advanced in the most gallant style, and by the time they became engaged the 18th and rifles moved forward; and the 55th, having gained the upper bridge, pressed the enemy's right. The Chinese, cheering until the british troops got close to them, now poured in a heavy, but ill-directed fire, and in many instances displayed acts of individual bravery that merited a better fate; but nothing could withstand the little force opposed to them. Field-work after field-work was cleared, and the colours of the 49th were displayed on the principal redoubt above the sea and river batteries; while the 18th, who had charged up a deep gorge to the left, broke through the central encampment, carrying every thing before them. From 1200 to 1500 of the enemy, that had stood longest, were driven down the heights into the river; their retreat being cut off by the flank movement of the 55th, many were drowned, others sought concealment on a rock in the stream, and nearly 500 surrendered as prisoners.

The right column, consisting of the seamen, the battalion of royal marines, a detachment of royal artillery, and 50 sappers,—in all about 700 men, with two 5½-inch mortars, and the whole commanded by captain Herbert of the Blenheim, landed at 11 h. 15 m. A. M. The seamen with characteristic spirit dashed up the nearly precipitous rock under the joss-house, supported by the steady advance of the royal marines. A magazine in the new battery before the outer gate exploded; and thus having cleared the way, the columns entered as the garrison retired into the town, and the union-jack was soon displayed on the joss-house walls. Taking advantage of the general panic, the column moved on to the attack of the city walls. These were soon gained, and 4 private marines, Robert Beer, George Watts, William Jays, and Thomas Parker, after great perseverance and courage, and without the aid of scaling-ladders, succeeded in gaining the entrance of an embrasure; and then passing a rope quickly down from the rampart, their comrades, led by major Ellis, soon effected an entrance, the enemy flying before them as they pushed round the ramparts, and escaped through the western gates. Vice-admiral sir William Parker, having accompanied the column, was among the first to scale the walls. About this time a tremendous explosion took place in the battery below the hill, by which the Chinese suffered severely, and a drummer of the marines received so severe a wound, that he soon afterwards died.

Thus the fortified city of Chinghae and the several shore batteries, as well as the works and fortified encampments on the right bank of the river, all of which they had for the past year been busily employed in strengthening at an immense expense, fell into the possession of the British. The seamen returned to their ships, and the battalion of marines, under major Ellis, bivouacked for the night on the ramparts.

It having been determined to push on with the least possible delay to Ningpo, arrangements were made for the attack. The 55th regiment, with the exception of the light company, a de-

tachment of 113 royal marines, under the command of captain James Whitcomb, with lieutenants F. White and G. W. Whiting, and detachments of artillery and sappers, were left on Chinghae; the rest, about 750 bayonets, exclusive of the artillery and sappers, embarked in steamers by 8 A. M. on the 13th, and reached Ningpo at 3 P. M. No enemy appeared, and as the inhabitants thronged the bridge of boats which connects the city with the opposite suburb, and collected in clusters along both banks of the river, it was evident that no ambuscade was intended. The troops landed on and near the bridge, and advanced to the city gate, which was found barricadoed; but the walls were soon escaladed, and the Chinese assisted in removing the obstructions, and in opening the gate. The little force of soldiers, seamen, and marines drew up on the ramparts, the band of the 18th playing "God save the Queen;" and thus the second city in the province of Che-Kang, the walls of which are nearly five miles in circumference, with a population of 300,000 souls, submitted without opposition to the british arms.

The loss sustained in storming the fortified heights of Chinghae, which were defended by 10,000 men, was only 3 killed, and 16 wounded. The total number of guns which fell into the hands of the British, amounted to 90 iron, and 67 brass.

On the 11th of November major Ellis, with the detachment of marines, quitted Ningpo, and calling at Chinghae, embarked those under captain Whitcomb; he then proceeded to Chusan, where the battalion landed on the 13th. On the 20th January, 1842, the 74-gun ship Cornwallis arrived from England, and on the 22nd the detachment under captain Whitcomb rejoined the Blenheim, which ship sailed for Macao on the 25th. On the 27th captain Hamilton, with the supernumerary detachment of marines of the Cornwallis, consisting of 2 lieutenants and 90 rank and file, disembarked at Chusan; and major Ellis, with a portion of the Wellesley's marines, re-embarked on board that ship, which sailed on the 3rd of February for England. On the day previous to her departure, the following gratify-

ing communications were addressed to major Ellis : from lieutenant-general sir Hugh Gough,—

“ I cannot allow you to leave the expedition without some assurances, on my part, of my regret at losing you, and of my best wishes for your future welfare.

“ As you have been repeatedly placed, by the naval commander-in-chief, at my disposal for active operations in the field, I have had occasion to notice the gallantry and steadiness of your little battalion, as well as the zeal, spirit, and judgment with which you exercised the command. The subsequent period of your service in the garrisons of Ningpo and Tinghae, has only tended to increase the satisfaction which I shall always feel at having had you and a portion of the royal marines under my orders; and I will beg you to convey the expression of my sentiments to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men under your command.”

And the following from vice-admiral sir William Parker :—

“ I shall ever entertain a lively and gratifying recollection of your valuable and distinguished services, and the estimable character you have justly acquired in the profession to which we mutually belong; and I will only add my cordial wishes, that all possible success may attend you in your future career.”

1842.

Following up the advantage of the severe repulse of the Chinese in their attacks on the positions of the British at Chinghae and at Ningpo, a rapid movement was made to intercept the enemy before they reached Pickwan, about forty miles higher up the river, at which point it was understood they were concentrating a considerable force. In anticipation of this advance, vice-admiral Parker, with the marines of the Cornwallis, proceeded in the steamers to Ningpo, where they were joined on the 13th of March by the marines and small-arm men of the squadron within the river, amounting altogether to 410 men, under the command of captain Bouchier of the Blonde.

At 8 A. M. on the 15th, 850 troops, in addition to the naval brigade, accompanied by his excellency sir H. Gough, embarked on board the steamers, making altogether a body of 1260 men, and proceeded up the river; before 2 h. P. M. the combined forces were all landed and in full march for Tse-kee, the Phlegethon and armed boats having been previously detached to harass the retreat of the Chinese. After a slight opposition, and a few rounds from the two small field-pieces of the Madras artillery, the enemy disappeared, and about 4 P. M. the city walls were escalated by the seamen and marines, and a party of sappers.

Advancing along the ramparts, this division rejoined the main body with the general through the east-gate, and proceeded outside the wall to the north-east angle of the city, where the Chinese forces, amounting to 5000 or 6000 men, were seen strongly posted in fortified encampments on the two hills of Seagon. The assault of the hill on the left was assigned to the naval brigade, and that more immediately in front to the 49th regiment. As it was desired that the attack should be simultaneous, and the naval brigade being the most advanced in the line, it became necessary to make a lodgment at the foot of the hill, while the 49th moved forward. In passing to this point across some paddy-fields, the brigade was assailed by a galling fire from both positions of the Chinese. On reaching the post the marines opened a fire of musketry, and some rockets were discharged with excellent precision while the men were reforming. As the 49th were soon observed approaching the hill on the right, orders were immediately given for the assault; and at 5 P. M. the leading companies of marines, under lieutenants G. Elliot and A. J. B. Hambly, promptly and gallantly pushed forward, followed by a small party of seamen. As they emerged from the buildings, the fire of the Chinese was very severe. Captains Bouchier and Richards led their men, and having crossed an intervening paddy-field, they boldly ascended the hill, which was disputed from its base to the crest, and several instances of

personal conflict occurred; but notwithstanding the steep and difficult ascent, the summit was attained, and the Chinese fled in every direction. The main body of seamen and marines, as they advanced in support, pressed round the side of the hill, inflicting a severe loss on the fugitives, and the pursuit continued until sunset, when the advanced party halted on a bridge about two miles beyond the city.

During these operations, the hills on the right were carried by the troops under the commander-in-chief, and thus the rout of the Chinese was complete at every point, having sustained a loss of about 1000 men slain: vast numbers were carried off wounded, and many prisoners were captured.

The naval brigade had 3 killed and 15 wounded; of that number, one serjeant and one private of marines were killed, lieutenants George Elliot, A. J. B. Hambly, and 10 privates wounded. The other officers of marines in this expedition were captains James Uniacke and Francis S. Hamilton; lieutenants Henry Timpson, C. C. Hewitt, W. S. L. Atcherly, F. J. White, and F. J. Polkinghorne.

Sir William Parker, in his official report of this affair, thus expresses himself:—"My best and cordial thanks are justly due to the gallantry and exertions displayed by captain Uniacke, and all the officers and men of the royal marines." Sir Hugh Gough enumerates the several officers brought to his notice by vice-admiral sir William Parker, and among those so distinguished we find lieutenant H. Marriott of the marines.

As soon as the guns and military stores taken at Chapoo were effectually destroyed, the troops re-embarked; and on the 28th of May the fleet sailed for Woosung, where they arrived on the 13th. The banks at the entrance of the river were lined with strong batteries, the western side presenting, for three miles, an uninterrupted fortified embankment, mounting 134 guns, between the city of Paoushan and the village of Woosung, which is bounded by a creek: on the opposite bank a semi-circular battery, mounting 10 twenty-four pounders, was

erected, to flank the entrance of the river. A strong fort, mounting 21 guns, at the entrance of the Woosung, completed the sea defence, making a total of 175 guns, which were all placed in judicious positions. The distance between the last-mentioned fort on the east side, and the main battery on the west line, is scarcely a mile, and the channel which runs between them on the west side, in a curved direction, is not more than 320 yards wide.

On the 16th, at 6 A.M., the squadron proceeded to the attack in the following order: Blonde, Cornwallis, Modeste, Columbine, and Clio, respectively in tow of the Tenasserim, Sesostris, Nemesis, Phlegethon, and Pluto, the Modeste being reserved to meet any contingency; the Algerine stood in as far as possible under sail, the Blonde and Cornwallis bringing up abreast of the heaviest batteries at the entrance of the western side. The North Star now appearing in the offing, the Tenasserim was despatched to tow her into position a-head of the Blonde. The precision of the gun-practice of the squadron soon drove the Chinese from their guns; and before 8 A.M. the batteries were in ruins, and the large bodies of troops, collected in different directions to oppose the landing, were dispersed by the shells and rockets thrown among them.

During the proceedings at the entrance of the river, the Modeste, Columbine, and Clio having silenced the forts to which they were opposed, a detachment was landed from each of the ships, and took possession of the semi-circular battery. On perceiving this movement, the main body of seamen and marines, who were already in the boats, immediately disembarked opposite the Cornwallis and Blonde, under command of captain Bouchier, and the whole line of the western batteries was soon in our possession. The Chinese in the eastern battery, who suffered considerably, were driven from the works, and the guns and fortifications destroyed by a party from the Sesostris. As soon as the Nemesis and Phlegethon were disengaged from the Modeste and Columbine, they proceeded in chase of thirteen

war junks, which had fired upon them in their advance; these were totally destroyed, but the crews, after sustaining much loss, made their escape. Before 1 p.m. the troops were disembarked, and in the afternoon the combined forces entered Paoushan without resistance. In the report of the casualties, we find that first-lieutenant C. C. Hewitt of the royal marines was killed on board the *Blonde*; and we cannot refrain from an expression of surprise that the loss of this meritorious officer is not noticed in the letter of the vice-admiral, although that report is replete with names of officers of various ranks who took part in the operations. The total british loss was 2 killed, and 25 wounded.

The expedition arrived off the island of Kinshan, at the entrance of the grand canal in the Yang-tse Keang, on the 26th of July; and on the 21st the city of Chin-Keang-Foo was taken possession of by the british forces, after vigorous assaults on three points, and a determined resistance by the tartar troops, who lined the walls for its defence on every part, comprising a circumference of four miles and a quarter. The squadron and transports, amounting altogether to seventy-three sail, left Woon-sung on the 6th, ascending this noble river in five divisions, preceded by the surveying-vessels, small steamers, and the *Cornwallis*, bearing the flag of vice-admiral Parker.

In moving up this river to the distance of 170 miles, in which the dangers were in a great portion unknown, and with rapid tides, every ship of the squadron and many of the transports grounded; but as the bottom was of soft mud, no damage resulted. The expedition reached Seshan without experiencing any opposition; and here three batteries, mounting 20 guns, were abandoned on a few shot being fired at them from the *Modeste*; and the whole, with the barracks, were destroyed by a party of seamen and marines.

The commanders of the forces having reconnoitred the approaches to Chin-Keang on the 15th, captain Bouchier was despatched on the 17th with the *Blonde*, *Modeste*, *Queen*, and

Nemesis, followed by the Dido, Calliope, Childers, Plover, and Sterling, to blockade the entrances of the grand canal.

The Cornwallis having arrived at the anchorage on the 19th, the island of Kinshan was immediately taken possession of by a small party of marines; and on the same evening a favourable breeze brought up the remainder of the fleet. It having been ascertained that a body of about 1500 chinese troops were posted in an entrenched camp about a mile and a half to the south-west of the town, the first and third brigades of the army landed on the 21st to the eastward of the city, opposite the island of Kinshan; and the second brigade at a commanding position to the eastward, within 700 yards of the north-east angle of the walls. The first brigade, under lord Saltoun, carried the entrenched camp after a short resistance, the Chinese precipitately retiring over the hills. The second brigade ascended the heights on the river side, and supported by a well-directed fire from the Auckland steam-vessel, they pushed forward, and under a smart fire of cannon, gingals, and musketry, entered that part of the city by escalade at 10 A.M.

During these proceedings the boats of the Blonde, in their anxiety to land the artillery guns near the west gate, advanced by the canal under the city walls, and became exposed to a severe fire from the enemy, by which 16 men out of the 24 of the barge's crew, and 2 officers and 8 men of the Madras artillery, were wounded; and it was only by great presence of mind that lieutenant Crouch of the Blonde, after receiving three wounds, succeeded in extricating the detachment from their difficulties. As soon as the casualty was known on board the Cornwallis, 200 marines were landed at the entrance of the canal, and being joined by 300 of the Madras native infantry, they instantly pushed through the suburbs to the city walls; while the whole of the boats of the flag-ship advanced by the canal on the right flank. Captain Richards leading, the detachment escaladed the walls, and effected an important lodgment in the suburbs of the city, where they shortly afterwards communicated with the advance of the second brigade.

About noon the west outer gate was effectually blown in, and the third brigade, accompanied by the commander-in-chief of the forces, gallantly rushed in ; and the buildings above the gate, in which the tartar troops had been posted, were at the same time enveloped in flames. The Tartars, however, were still unsubdued, and about half an hour after the explosion at the gate, the 18th and 49th regiments, when advancing by the ramparts, were suddenly fired upon by a large body, and sustained a severe loss of officers and men. At this time the seamen and marines under captain Richards were halted on another part of the ramparts ; but on hearing the firing, immediately advanced, and in passing along a narrow street in the tartar city, received a volley from a considerable body of these troops posted at a gateway, who fled on the approach of the british detachment.

The operations on this day were executed under a burning sun, with the thermometer above 90, and the loss of life in consequence was serious. Brevet-major Uniacke, an old and distinguished officer of the royal marines, and one private, died from the effect of the sun, and 16 of the troops from the same cause. The army sustained a loss of 19 killed and 107 wounded ; that of the navy and marines we have already enumerated ; and commander Watson and lieutenant Fitzjames were among the wounded.

The officers of marines employed on this occasion were as follows : Brevet-major James Uniacke, captain F. S. Hamilton, first-lieutenants Henry Timpson and F. J. White.

In terminating this faithful record of the services of a corps which, although so repeatedly thanked by the nation, has been but inadequately rewarded, we may express a hope that the modern system of warfare will make it imperative on the government to give its most serious attention to this valuable arm of our national defence. The introduction of steam has placed the European powers so nearly on an equality, that in all future wars in which we may be engaged, our military operations will principally be confined to coast attacks ; and consequently success

will mainly depend on the efficiency of the troops, who must be trained to work the floating batteries as good artillerymen, and at the same time accustomed to disembark with rapidity, and take the field as effective battalions of infantry. In illustration of their value as such a force, we refer to the recent operations in Syria, when the marines moved from point to point with such rapidity, that Ibrahim Pacha, in a despatch to his father, declares it "impossible to anticipate attack, or guard against surprise." But there is a serious impediment to these operations, which we believe will not pass unnoticed by the present first lord at the Admiralty,—the inconsistency of placing naval officers to direct military operations. The Syrian campaign has afforded sufficient proof of the necessity of allowing the officer commanding the troops the discriminating power, after landing, of making the attack according to circumstances; for it cannot rationally be expected that naval officers can have a sufficient acquaintance with strategy to direct operations in the field.

There is at length a ray of promise cast on the long-neglected claims of the officers of marines; and we look with anxious anticipation to the deliberation of the respected nobleman who now presides at the Board of Admiralty, in the hope that the confidence and zeal so essential to the welfare of the service will be restored. By this act of justice his lordship will associate himself in the esteem and gratitude of a corps, which, to use the words of a great officer,—the earl of St. Vincent: "THERE NEVER WAS AN APPEAL MADE TO THEM FOR HONOUR, COURAGE, OR LOYALTY, THAT THEY DID NOT MORE THAN REALIZE MY HIGHEST EXPECTATIONS. IF EVER THE HOUR OF REAL DANGER SHOULD COME TO ENGLAND, THE MARINES WILL BE FOUND THE COUNTRY'S SHEET-ANCHOR."

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